

## INSIDE TODAY WORLD NEWS

### DRUG INC.



A man holds up a poster that reads in Spanish "Drug trafficking, Inc." with the names of banks on a washing machine at a demonstration for peace and against violence in Monterrey, Mexico, Sunday, March 28, 2010.

*Read more on Page A7*

## SPORTS NEWS

### BAY-SIC WIN



Ernie Els, of South Africa, lines up his putt on the second hole during the final round of the Arnold Palmer Invitational golf tournament at Bay Hill in Orlando, Fla., Sunday, March 28, 2010.

*Read more on Page A13*

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A man places a candle in memory of the subway blasts' victims at the Lubyanka Subway station, which was earlier hit by an explosion, Moscow, Monday, March 29, 2010. Two explosions blasted Moscow's subway system Monday morning as it was jam-packed with rush-hour passengers, killing at least 37 people, emergency officials and news agencies said.

*Associated Press*

## Twin suicide bombings kill 38 in Moscow subway

VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV

Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — Terror returned to the heart of Russia, with two deadly suicide bombings on the Moscow subway at rush hour, including an attack at the station beneath the headquarters of the secret police.

At least 38 people were killed and more than 60 wounded in Monday morning's blasts, the first such attacks in Moscow in six years.

*Continued on Page 6*

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## Christian militia accused of plotting to kill cops

COREY WILLIAMS  
DEVLIN BARRETT

Associated Press Writers

DETROIT (AP) — Nine suspects tied to a Christian militia that was preparing for the Antichrist were charged with conspiring to kill police officers, then kill scores more by attacking a funeral using homemade bombs, federal prosecutors said Monday. The Michigan-based group, called Hutaree, planned to use the attack on police as a catalyst for a larger uprising against the government, according to newly unsealed court papers. U.S. Attorney Barbara McQuade said agents moved quickly on the group because its members were planning a violent mission sometime in April.

*Continued on Page 3*



A family member of a missing sailor of sunken South Korean naval ship Cheonan, complains to Defense Minister Kim Tae-young, left, regarding the rescue operation as the minister tries to make its briefing at a naval base in Pyeongtaek, South Korea, Sunday, March 28, 2010. Weeping, angry relatives of 46 crew members missing after a mysterious explosion sank the South Korean navy ship sailed around the site Sunday as rescue teams took to the air and sea still hoping to find survivors.

*Associated Press*

## South Korean defense minister: Warship may have struck mine

JEAN H. LEE

Associated Press Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — A naval mine dispatched from North Korea may have struck the South Korean warship that exploded and sank near the Koreas' disputed sea border, the defense minister told lawmakers Monday, laying out several scenarios for the maritime disaster.

*Continued on Page 9*

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# AP source: Kandahar offensive to begin in June



President Barack Obama reviews the honor guard with Afghan President Hamid Karzai, left, at the presidential palace in Kabul, Afghanistan, Sunday, March 28, 2010.

ANNE FLAHERTY

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — NATO forces will launch in June a long-planned assault on the Taliban's spiritual home in

the southern Afghan city of Kandahar, a senior military official said Monday.

The goal is to rid the city of Taliban forces before the Muslim holy month of

Ramadan begins in August, according to the official.

U.S. officials previously have disclosed plans for a NATO-led offensive in the area this year but have not said when it

might happen. The two-month offensive will be a major test of President Barack Obama's new strategy in Afghanistan and a bellwether of the war in general.

The official, who was not authorized to speak publicly on the operation, discussed the operation on condition of anonymity.

Until the start of major military operations, U.S. troops are working on securing transit routes and persuading the leaders of districts surrounding Kandahar to cooperate with NATO forces.

As the Taliban's governing capital before the U.S.-led invasion in 2001, Kandahar remains the spiritual heartland of the insurgency and a stubborn holdout in NATO's efforts to transfer control to Afghan President Hamid Karzai in Kabul.

In an effort to reverse gains made by the Taliban, Obama has ordered the deployment

of 30,000 more troops to Afghanistan.

Military officials say they expect several thousand of those troops to be sent to Kandahar, mostly to partner with local police and provide a security presence in the region.

Gen. Stanley McChrystal, the top U.S. and NATO commander in Afghanistan, said this month that the operation in Kandahar will be different from Marjah, where U.S. and Afghan forces stormed the farming town to purge Taliban forces.

"Unlike a Marjah operation, where there was a D-day and an H-hour for part of the operation, it is more likely that (Kandahar) will be a series of activities that target different parts of it to increase that security," McChrystal said.

The military terms he used would imply the massing of forces for a major operation against entrenched enemy forces. □



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**CHRSTIAN MILITIA**

*Continued from Front Page*

Members of the group, including its leader, David Brian Stone, also known as “Captain Hutaree,” were charged following FBI raids over the weekend on locations in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana. Seven people were arraigned in Detroit on Monday, and another one of Stone’s sons, Joshua, is being sought.

Stone’s ex-wife, Donna Stone, told The Associated Press before the arraignments that her former husband was to blame for pulling her son into the movement. She said David Brian Stone legally adopted her son, David Brian Stone Jr., who is among those indicted.

“It started out as a Christian thing,” said Donna Stone, 44. “You go to church. You pray. You take care of your family. I think David started to take it a little too far.”

According to the indictment, the group had been meeting and conducting military-style training exercises in the Michigan woods since 2008 to prepare for an impending war with its enemies. Members practiced building and detonating explosives and shooting firearms and built storage bunkers, investigators said. The group says on its Web site that Hutaree means “Christian warrior” and describes the word as part of a secret language that only a few people are privileged enough to know. The group quotes several Bible passages and states: “We believe that one day, as prophecy says, there will be an Anti-Christ. ... Jesus wanted us to be ready to defend ourselves using the sword and stay alive using equipment.”

The site also features a picture on the site of 17 camouflaged men, all holding large guns, and includes videos of camouflaged men toting guns and running through wooded areas in apparent training exercises. Each wears a patch on the left shoulder that bears a cross and two red spears.

According to investigators, the Hutaree view local, state, and federal law enforcement personnel as a “brotherhood” and an enemy, and planned to attack them as part of an armed struggle against the

U.S. government.

The idea of attacking a police funeral was one of numerous scenarios discussed as ways to go after law enforcement officers, the indictment said. Other scenarios included using a fake emergency call to lure an officer to his or her death, killing an officer after a traffic stop or an attacking on the family of a police officer.

Once other officers gathered for a slain officer’s funeral, the group planned to detonate homemade bombs at the funeral, killing scores more, according to the indictment. After the attacks, the group allegedly planned to retreat to “rally points” protected by trip-wired improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, for what they expected would become a violent standoff with law enforcement personnel. The indictment says members of the group conspired “to levy war against the United States, (and) to oppose by force the authority of the government of the United States.”

The charges against the eight include seditious conspiracy, possessing a firearm during a crime of violence, teaching the use of explosives, and attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction — homemade bombs. All

seven defendants in court on Monday requested to be represented by the federal defender’s office, and a bond hearing is set for Wednesday.

The arrests have dealt “a severe blow to a dangerous organization that today stands accused of conspiring to levy war against the United States,” U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder said Monday.

The raids on the group began over the weekend. FBI agents in Michigan swarmed a rural, wooded property Saturday evening in Adrian, about 70 miles (110 kilometers) southwest of Detroit. The same night in Indiana law enforcement agents flooded a neighborhood, startling workers at a nearby pizzeria. In Ohio, authorities blocked off streets and raided two homes.

Outside Adrian, Heidi Wood, who lives near the property that was raided, said she hears gunshots “all the time” from near two ramshackle trailers that sit side-by-side. On Monday, a long gun leaned against a washing machine that sat in the yard, and on top of a nearby canister was another long gun.

Wood’s mother, Phyllis Brugger, who has lived in



This combo of eight photos provided by the U.S. Marshals Service on Monday March 29, 2010 shows from top left, David Brian Stone Sr., 44, of Clayton, Mich.; David Brian Stone Jr. of Adrian, Mich.; Jacob Ward, 33, of Huron, Ohio; Tina Mae Stone and bottom row from left, Michael David Meeks, 40, of Manchester, Mich.; Kristopher T. Sickles, 27, of Sandusky, Ohio; Joshua John Clough, 28, of Blissfield, Mich.; and Thomas William Piatek, 46, of Whiting, Ind.,. Nine suspects tied to Hutaree, a Christian militia that was preparing for the Antichrist were charged with conspiring to kill police officers, then kill scores more by attacking a funeral using homemade bombs, federal prosecutors said Monday. Federal authorities say Stone’s other son, Joshua Matthew Stone is a fugitive. Piatek, 46, of Whiting, Ind., was arrested Sunday in Illinois after an FBI raid Saturday in Hammond, Ind. In court Monday, he initially said he was the person named in the federal indictment, but when read the allegations, he said “I’m not that guy.” U.S. District Judge Paul Cherry ordered Piatek to return Wednesday for an identity and bond hearing.

*Associated Press*

the area for more than 30 years, said Stone and his family were known as having ties to militia. They would shoot guns and often wore camouflage, she said. “Everybody knew they were militia,” Brugger said. “You don’t mess with them.” In Hammond, 18-year-old George Ponce, who works at a pizzeria next door to a home that

was raided, said he and a few co-workers stepped outside for a break Saturday night and saw a swarm of law enforcement. “I heard a yell, ‘Get back inside!’ and saw a squad member pointing a rifle at us,” Ponce said. “They told us the bomb squad was going in, sweeping the house looking for bombs.” □

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## Palin steps up rhetoric against her detractors



Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin addresses Tea Party supporters during a rally in the desert outside Searchlight, Nev. Saturday, March 27, 2010.

*Associated Press*

**BECKY BOHRER,**

**Associated Press Writer**

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) — Former vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin had some harsh words for her detractors in the health care debate with a thinly veiled, March Madness-themed Facebook post in which she declared, “never retreat, instead RELOAD!”

The title of the former Alaska governor’s Facebook post on Sunday was “Warning: Subject to New Politically Correct Language Police Censorship.” Palin then discussed her love of college basketball and compared the national college basketball tournament to a “heated, competitive primary election.”

The former basketball player then stepped some of the rhetoric

she has employed recently to describe her dislike of the Democrat-backed health overhaul.

She wrote about using “strong weapons” and “big guns” to drive to the basket. She urged teams to “shoot with accuracy; aim high and remember it takes blood, sweat and tears to win.” She says “bombing through the press” is part of what teams must do to help reach their goals.

“To the teams that desire making it this far next year: Gear up! In the battle, set your sights on next season’s targets! From the shot across the bow — the first second’s tip-off — your leaders will be in the enemy’s crosshairs, so you must execute strong defensive tactics,” she wrote. “You won’t win only playing defense, so get on offense!”

“If the other side tries to push back,” she added later, “your attitude should be ‘go for it.’ Get in their faces and argue with them.”

Democrats have criticized Palin for using such loaded language at a time when lawmakers have reported receiving threats of violence for supporting the health bill. Over the weekend in Alaska, a window was reported smashed at the state Democratic Party headquarters.

Palin has dismissed the controversy over her words as “ginned up.” At a recent campaign appearance for her former running mate, Sen. John McCain, she said: “When we take up our arms, we’re talking about our vote.”

In a Facebook posting last week, Palin said she planned to use her political action committee to win for “Commonsense Conservatives” 20 seats held by House Democrats who voted for the health care legislation. Her pitch for people to join her in “a fight to elect people across the nation who will bring common sense to Washington,” was accompanied by a map with crosshairs on those states. □



House Minority Whip Eric Cantor of Va. makes a statement to reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, March 25, 2010.

*Associated Press*

## Feds: man threatened congressman

**MARYCLAIRE DALE,**

**Associated Press Writer**

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A Philadelphia man charged with threatening the No. 2 Republican in the House was being held without bail Monday pending a psychiatric evaluation.

Norman Leboon, 38, is accused of trying to post a YouTube video in which he threatened to kill Republican Rep. Eric Cantor of Virginia. Leboon is wanted by city authorities in another threat case, Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Reed said.

The threat against Cantor does not appear to be connected to the health care reform bill, though it’s not clear whether Leboon was upset with the House Republican whip about other issues, Reed said. Cantor is the only Jewish Republican in Congress, and Passover begins Monday at sundown. Reed told a judge that Leboon appears to have major psychiatric issues. □

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# French president, first lady take on New York

ANGELA CHARLTON  
VERENA DOBNIK

Associated Press Writers  
NEW YORK (AP) — With a lectern flown in from France and his fingers firmly entwined with those of his smiling wife, French President Nicolas Sarkozy made a splash Monday even before he opened his mouth for a no-holds-barred speech at Columbia University. Amid blogger reports of strains in their marriage, Sarkozy and ex-supermodel Carla Bruni-Sarkozy made every effort to appear the happy couple, walking closely together and clasping hands as they mounted a staircase into an auditorium packed with students, faculty and other spectators. The French first lady, elegant in a swept-up chignon and form-fitting black top with gray skirt, at times threatened to upstage her husband, who scolded his American hosts about health care and for not paying enough attention to the

rest of the world. French Web sites immediately picked up on the message. “CarlaBrunietNicolasSarkozy amoureux a New York” read a headline on the online site of entertainment magazine Voici, which mentioned the “electric atmosphere” of the Big Apple and its effects on the French presidential couple. Sarkozy is in hot water at home. His poll ratings are at record lows of around 30 percent and there are widening cracks in his conservative party. In New York, though, he basked in the rapt attention of hundreds of Columbia students and even jettisoned a prepared speech. “Speeches kill off creativity,” he said. “I’m going to speak from the heart.” And he did.

“Welcome to the club of states who don’t turn their back on the sick and the poor,” Sarkozy said, referring to the U.S. health care overhaul signed by President Barack Obama last week.

From the European perspective, he said, “when we look at the American debate on reforming health care, it’s difficult to believe.” “The very fact that there should have been such a violent debate simply on the fact that the poorest of Americans should not be left out in the streets without a cent to look after them ... is something astonishing to us.” Then to hearty applause, he added: “If you come to France and something happens to you, you won’t be asked for your credit card before you’re rushed to the hospital.” Despite the strident words, the mood was celebratory — and Bruni-Sarkozy held the spotlight, with more than 100 members of the media focusing on her every move. Columbia President Lee Bollinger introduced Sarkozy, but before the French leader could utter a single word, Bollinger asked the audience to give the French first lady “a special welcome.”

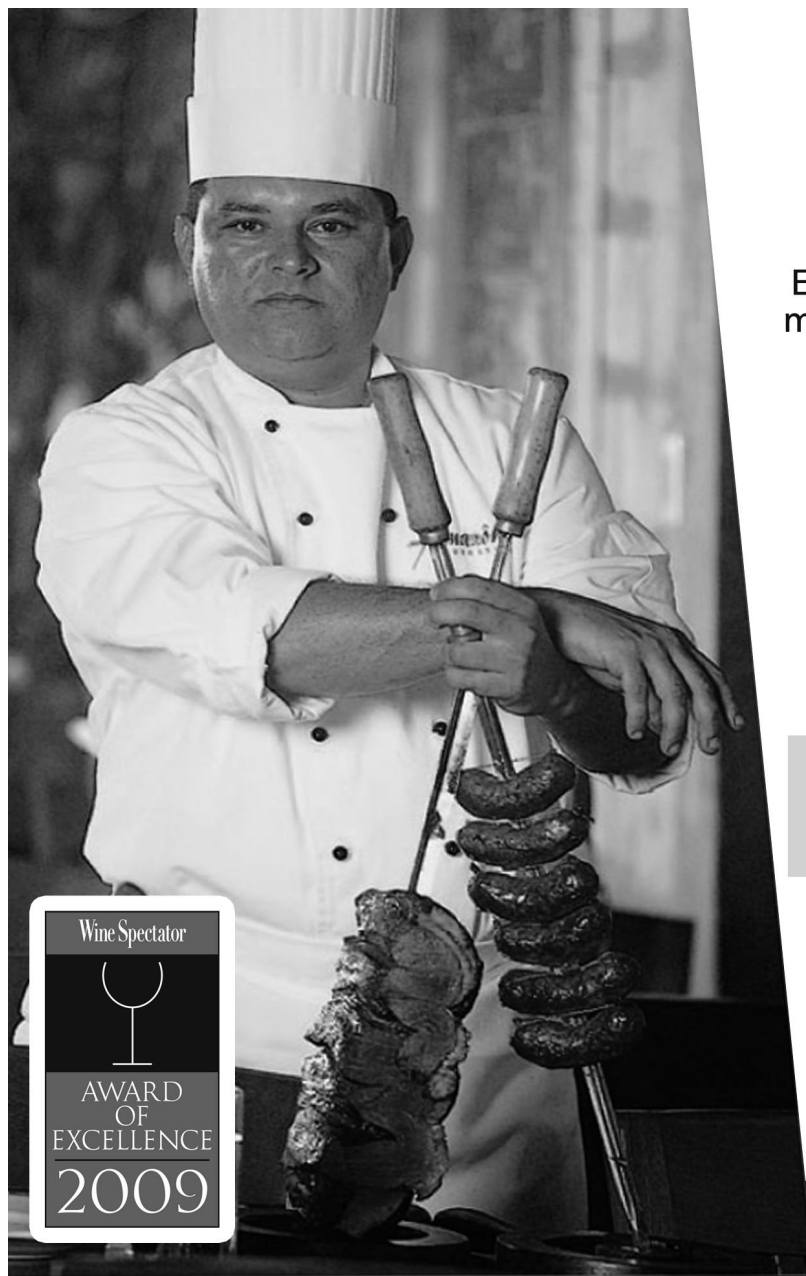


French President Nicolas Sarkozy and his wife, Carla Bruni, arrive at the World Leaders Forum at Columbia University in New York, Monday, March 29, 2010.

Associated Press

Hundreds of students, professors and members of the public obliged, giving Bruni-Sarkozy a rousing ovation, which she acknowledged by rising, turning toward the audience and smiling.

She then listened to her husband speak, nodding supportively in the front row as Sarkozy called on the audience to “reflect on what it means to be the world’s No. 1 power.” □



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Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, center, and Moscow mayor Yuri Luzhkov, left, visit the Lubyanka Subway station, which was earlier hit by an explosion, Moscow, Monday, March 29, 2010. Two explosions blasted Moscow's subway system Monday morning as it was jam-packed with rush-hour passengers, killing at least 37 people, emergency officials and news agencies said.

*Associated Press*

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## MOSCOW SUBWAY

### Continued from Front Page

Russian police have killed several Islamic militant leaders in the North Caucasus recently, including one last week in the Kabardino-Balkariya region, which raised fears of retaliatory strikes and escalating bloodshed by the militants.

As smoke billowed through the subway tunnels not far from the Kremlin and dazed survivors streamed out of the vast transportation system, al-Qaida-affiliated Web sites were abuzz with celebration of the attacks by the two female suicide bombers. The bombings showed that the beleaguered rebels are still strong enough to inflict harm on an increasingly assertive Russia, and they followed a warning last month from Chechen rebel leader Doku Umarov that "the war is coming to their cities."

Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, who built much of his political capital by directing a fierce war against Chechen separatists a decade ago, promised to track down and kill the organizers of what he called a "disgusting" crime.

"The terrorists will be destroyed," he said on national television.

In a televised meeting with President Dmitry Medvedev, Federal Security Service head Alexander Bortnikov said the remains of the two bombers pointed to a Caucasus connection.

"We will continue the fight against terrorism unswervingly and to the end," Medvedev said. Umarov, the Chechen rebel leader, has relied on al-Qaida's financial support and has several al-Qaida emissaries in his entourage, said Alexander Ignatenko, the head of the independent Moscow-based Institute for Religion and Politics, who has closely followed the Islamic insurgency in the Caucasus.

"Al-Qaida has established a presence in the North Caucasus, like they did in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, Somalia and Europe," Ignatenko told The Associated Press. The militants' links with al-Qaida also are recognized by other experts on terrorism.

Militants in the Caucasus have declared the creation of an Islamic state as their top goal. Radical Islamic sects have spread throughout the Caucasus region and parts of Russia as well, with religious schools set up. In Chechnya, Kremlin-backed strongman Ramzan Kadyrov has conducted a campaign to impose Islamic values in an effort to blunt the appeal of hard-line Islamic separatists.

Monday's first explosion took place just before 8 a.m. at the Lubyanka station in central Moscow, beneath the notorious headquarters of the Federal Security Service or FSB, the KGB's main successor agency. The FSB is a symbol of power under Putin, a former KGB officer who headed the agency before his election as

president in 2000.

About 45 minutes later, a second blast hit the Park Kultury station on the same subway line, which is near renowned Gorky Park. In both cases, the bombs were detonated as the trains pulled into the stations and the doors were opening.

"I was getting off the train when I heard the sound of an explosion and saw clouds of smoke," said Yegor Barbatunov, 29. "The (Park Kultury) station was jammed with people trying to get out, but there was no panic. I saw a young man walking past, blood pouring off his head and neck and trickling to the floor."

Added Alevtina Rogatova, a 23-year-old student who was on the same train: "I smelled burning plastic and heard cries of 'let the wounded through.'"

Amateur video on Russian TV showed wounded and possibly dead commuters on the floor of the smoke-filled Lubyanka station. One video showed gruesome images of dead passengers sprawled inside a mangled subway car and a bloody leg lying on a station platform.

Passengers streamed out of the stations, many crying and making frantic calls on cell phones. The wounded were put on ambulances and helicopters, some with their heads wrapped in bloody bandages, as sirens wailed.

Traffic was paralyzed as large sections of downtown were closed off. Some gypsy cab drivers jacked up their rates for panicky passengers trying to get to work, drawing a harsh rebuke from Orthodox Patriarch Kirill later in the day.

"Any desire to profit on the grief of others brings nothing but grief in return," Patriarch Kirill said after a liturgy.

At 4 p.m., the two subway stations reopened and dozens boarded waiting trains.

"It's really terrifying," said Vasily Vlastinin, 16. "It's become dangerous to ride the metro, but I'll keep taking the metro. You have to get to school, to college, to work somehow."

Both stations had been scrubbed clean. Holes left by shrapnel in the granite were the only reminder of the day's tragic bombings.

The ornate Moscow subway system is the world's second-busiest after Tokyo's, carrying around 7 million passengers on an average workday, and is a key element in running the sprawling and traffic-choked city.

The last confirmed terrorist attack in Moscow was in August 2004, when a suicide bomber blew herself up outside a subway station, killing 10 people. Chechen rebels claimed responsibility.

In February 2004, a suicide bomber from the North Caucasus attacked a subway train during the morning rush hour, killing more than 40 people and wounding more than 100. □



# Mexico detains suspect in killings of two Americans

OLIVIA TORRES

Associated Press Writer

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP) — Mexican soldiers have arrested a gang member suspected in the killings of three people linked to the U.S. consulate in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua state police said Monday.

Police spokesman Enrique Torres said the suspect arrested on Friday was a member of the Barrio Azteca gang, which authorities say works for the Juarez drug cartel on both sides of the border.

Torres did not release the man's name, but a Chihuahua state investigator who spoke on condition of anonymity because he is not authorized to discuss the case identified

the suspect as Ricardo Valles de la Rosa, 45.

Consulate employee Lesley A. Enriquez and her husband, Arthur H. Redelfs, were killed March 13 in Juarez when gunmen opened fire on their sport utility vehicle after they left a birthday party. Their 7-month-old daughter was found wailing in the back of the vehicle.

Jorge Alberto Salcido, the husband of a Mexican employee of the consulate, also was killed by gunmen after leaving the same event in a separate vehicle.

Torres said the suspect is a leader of the Barrio Azteca gang, but gave no other details. He said the suspect would be presented to the media later

Monday.

U.S. and Mexican authorities say the Barrio Azteca gang works for the Juarez drug cartel and operates on both sides of the border.

Initially a Texas prison gang, Barrio Azteca expanded across the Rio Grande into Juarez in the late 1990s, U.S. authorities have said.

Last week, El Paso police and Texas state troopers arrested 25 people in a sweep of suspected gang members.

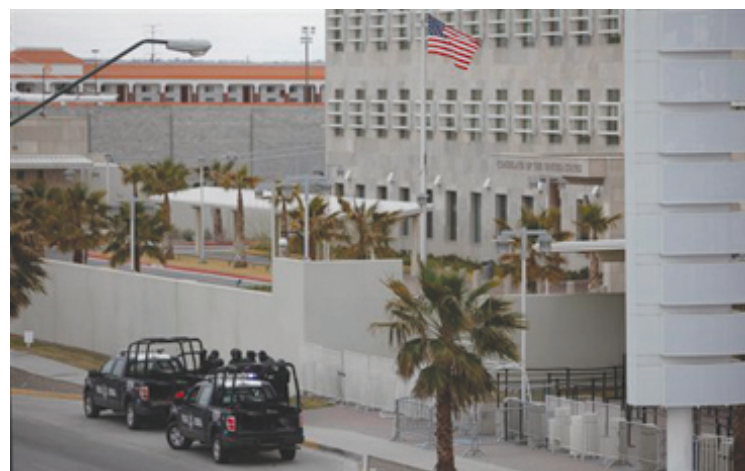
Ciudad Juarez, across from El Paso, Texas, is one of the world's deadliest places. More than 2,600 people were killed last year, and another 500 so far this year in the city of 1.3 million.

Elsewhere in Mexico, at least 21 people were killed Sunday in drug violence.

In the northern state of Durango, gunmen killed 10 youths traveling in a pickup truck after they refused to stop at an illegal roadblock, state investigators said in a statement.

The youths, ages 8 to 21, were heading to the town of Los Naranjos to collect federal financial aid given to students when they were shot at and attacked with grenades. Four of the victims were siblings from one family.

Federal Interior Secretary Fernando Gomez-Mont said Monday that the Sinaloa drug cartel is in a turf battle in the region with the Zetas, hit men who broke away from the Gulf cartel to form their own drug



Federal police patrol outside the U.S. Consulate in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, Monday, March 15, 2010. U.S. and Mexican officials say they're looking into why a suspected drug gang ambushed two cars carrying families with ties to the U.S. consulate in a Mexican border city over the weekend, killing an American couple and a Mexican man.

Associated Press

## Nigeria forces on alert after text message threats

NJADVARA MUSA

Associated Press Writer

MAIDUGURI, Nigeria (AP)—Nigerian police and immigration services are on high alert after officials said Monday they received text messages threatening new religious violence by a radical Islamic sect.

Officers set up checkpoints in armored tanks around Maiduguri, the capital of Borno state where rioting by the Islamic sect Boko Haram and an ensuing police crackdown left 700 people dead. Immigration agents in the state that borders Chad, Niger and Cameroon also are watching for Boko Haram members who may cross the border to spark new violence in the area, said Adamu Isa Azare, an assistant superintendent of police in Borno.

Azare said the increased security presence comes after police received text messages that promised the group would rise again and attack around Maiduguri.

Violence between Christians and Muslims in central Nigeria has left more than 500 people dead since the start of the year, sparking recent calls from an al-Qaida-affiliated Web site for a Muslim uprising against Christians.

"We are not (sure) if it is Boko Haram per se, because some people we are yet to identify were just sending text messages to people that there was going to be attacks," Azare said. "For this reason, we stepped up our security apparatus as proactive measures to ensure we were not caught unaware. We want to ensure the people are well-policed. We don't want to take anything for granted."

Azare also asked the public to call authorities if they saw large groups of unfamiliar people moving into the region.

Boko Haram — which means "Western education is sacrilege" in the local Hausa language — has campaigned for the implementation of strict Shariah law. Its members rioted and attacked police stations and private homes in late July, sparking the police crackdown. Authorities have been accused of killing Boko Haram leader Mohammed Yusuf while he was in custody. Police officials said he was killed while trying to escape, but army officials said he was alive when he was arrested.

The group largely went underground after Yusuf's death. In early March, police arrested 17 officers suspected of taking part in filmed executions that later aired on international news channel Al-Jazeera. □

trafficking organization.

Also Sunday, three gunmen died in a clash with soldiers near a park packed with families in the border city of Nuevo Laredo, across from Laredo, Texas, authorities said in a statement.

Tamaulipas state investigators said police on Sunday also found the bodies of three men who had been shot to death in the town of Miguel Aleman, about 60 miles (100 kilometers) east of Nuevo Laredo.

Tamaulipas and neighboring Nuevo Leon state have seen a surge of violence in recent weeks that authorities blame on a turf battle between the Gulf cartel and the Zetas.

In the Nuevo Leon city of Santa Catarina, three men and two women were killed in a shootout with soldiers inside

a motel, the army said in a statement.

It said one of those killed was a gunman who participated in the Nov. 5 killing of an army general who had been appointed police chief of the town of Garcia and in last week's attack against Rene Castillo, an army major and Santa Catarina's security chief.

The clash happened just as thousands of people wearing white gathered in Monterrey, near Santa Catarina, for a peace rally.

Drug-related violence in Mexico has claimed 17,900 lives since President Felipe Calderon declared war on the drug gangs in December 2006. Powerful drug cartels have been battling not only authorities but each other for turf and drug routes. □

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# Somalis protest against al-Qaida linked militants

MOHAMED OLAD HASSAN  
Associated Press Writer

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — Hundreds of women and children marched through Somalia's capital Monday to protest the destruction of tombs of Somali clerics, some a century old, by al-Qaida-linked militants wielding sledgehammers and pickaxes.

It was a rare demonstration against al-Shabab in a city mainly controlled by the extremist group. Protesters chanted "Down with al-Shabab," as dozens of armed government troops kept watch and occasionally fired shots into the air.

The hardline al-Shabab militants, who control much of central and southern Somalia, have been targeting tombs of moderate Sufis, destroying dozens of burial places and attacking historic monuments

and churches in the past couple of years. Al-Shabab has prohibited the decoration of tombs and does not want them to be idolized.

"They have been worshipping the remains of the dead bodies in tombs and that is why we want to eradicate them, because there is nothing to worship or to ask help from but Allah," said Ali Mohamed Husein, the head of al-Shabab in Mogadishu. Al-Shabab recently began targeting tombs in the capital, sparking the ire of Mogadishu residents who were shocked when graves of venerated clerics were dug up during the last week.

"Al-Shabab's wicked actions are not acceptable. We call for a holy war against them," said Sheik Somow of the moderate Islamist group Ahlu Sunna Waljama, which recently signed a power-sharing deal with

the Somali government. "We never worship tombs but only consecrate the dead body of our religious fathers and teachers. They are those who spread the religion peacefully but this radical group has another agenda from terrorism-based ideologies."

Al-Shabab espouses a strict interpretation of Islam, and has carried out public executions and amputations. Many Somalis chafe at al-Shabab's actions and orders because most observe a relatively moderate form of Islam that allows the veneration of respected saints.

Al-Shabab's targeting of tombs echoes attacks carried out by Taliban militants on religious symbols in Afghanistan that were unrelated to Islam.

Militants in spring 2001 destroyed two large Buddha statues carved into the cliffs of Bamiyan, raising an outcry



Somali demonstrators holding ply cards march in Mogadishu's Daljirka Dahsoon square, Somalia, Monday, March 29, 2010. Hundreds of women and children took to the streets in the government-controlled southern part of the Somali capital to protest the actions of Al-Qaida-linked groups in their country.

Associated Press

around the world.

The Somali militants are using hoes, shovels and pickaxes to destroy the tombs. For bigger structures — ones that look like small buildings with verses of the Quran written on their walls — the rebels tie a chain around the tomb and drag it with a pickup truck.

The demonstrators on Monday also protested the influx of

foreign fighters to Somalia, said Mohyadin Hassan Afrah, who heads Mogadishu's civil society umbrella group that helped organize the march. Foreign fighters, coming primarily from Pakistan, Yemen and North Africa, have flocked to Somalia to back the country's myriad Islamic groups since 2006.

Monday's protest was not the first against al-Shabab. □

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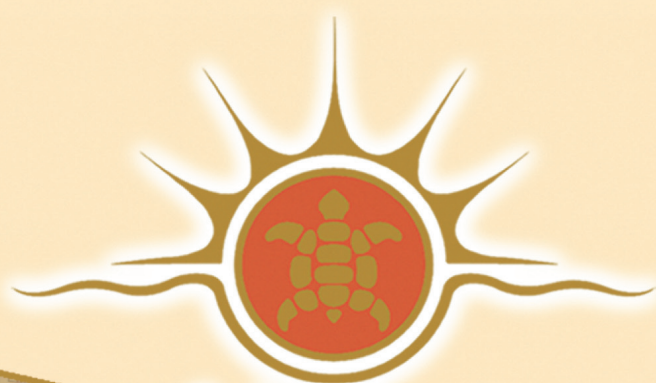


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## WARSHIP

*Continued from Front Page*

Defense Minister Kim Tae-young said there was no sign of a direct attack from rival North Korea, but military authorities have not ruled out North Korean involvement in the sinking of the Cheonan late Friday night.

An explosion ripped the 1,200-ton ship apart during a routine patrol mission near Baengnyeong Island west of the peninsula. Fifty-eight crew members, including the captain, were plucked to safety; 46 remain missing. The Joint Chiefs of Staff said the exact cause would remain unclear until the ship is salvaged after the rescue operation is over. On Monday, mothers beat their chests with grief as divers went down to search for survivors, returning to report hearing no sounds inside the underwater wreckage.

Kim, grilled by lawmakers on what happened Friday night, said the ship may have struck a mine left over from the war or deliberately dispatched from the North. The two Koreas remain in a state of war because their three-year conflict ended in

a truce, not a peace treaty, in 1953. North Korea disputes the sea border drawn by the United Nations in 1953, and the western waters near the spot where the Cheonan went down have been the site of three bloody skirmishes between North and South.

Many of the 3,000 Soviet-made naval mines North Korea planted in the waters off both coasts during the war were removed, but not all. Kim noted a North Korean mine was discovered as recently as 1984.

North Korea may also have sent a mine floating south with the current, he said. "North Korea may have intentionally floated underwater mines to inflict damage on us," Kim told lawmakers.

He insisted there were no South Korean mines off the west coast, and ruled out a torpedo attack from North Korea, which would have been spotted by radar.

Officials have also said an internal malfunction may be to blame. The 1,200-ton Cheonan is designed to carry weapons, and was involved in a previous skirmish with North Korea.

U.S. and South Korea military officials said there was no outward indication that North Korea was involved in the sinking of the Cheonan.

However, "neither the government nor the defense ministry has ever said there was no possibility of North Korea's involvement," Kim said.

The North Korean military was keeping a close watch on the search operation, the Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a defense committee report cited by the Yonhap news agency.

But Pyongyang's state media have made no mention of the ship.

Earlier Friday, North Korea's military warned of "unpredictable strikes" if the U.S. and South Korea attempted to topple the regime. On Monday, a military spokesman accused the countries of engaging in "psychological warfare" by letting journalists into the Demilitarized Zone.

South Korean President Lee Myung-bak urged rescuers not to give up hope.

But the prospect of pulling anyone out alive seemed dim Monday. Any navy crewmen who managed



The South Korean naval ship Gwangyang, background, and a naval patrol ship search for still-missing sailors from a sunken South Korean navy ship near South Korea's Baengnyeong Island on Monday, March 29, 2010. The 1,200-ton Cheonan, on a routine patrol with other vessels, went down near the tense maritime border with North Korea following a mysterious explosion late Friday. No one has been found since an initial rescue of 58 sailors from the Cheonan.

*Associated Press*

to seal themselves inside their watertight cabins would have run out of air by Monday night since the supply of oxygen in the cabins was estimated to last up to 69 hours, military officials said.

Rough waves prevented divers from gaining access to the wreckage. Divers finally reached the ship's rear segment, where most of the missing were believed trapped, on Monday. They hammered on the hull but got no response, Rear Adm. Lee Ki-sik of the Joint Chiefs of Staff told reporters.

The U.S. Navy sent four

ships and a team of divers to join the search, said Lt. Anthony Falvo, a spokesman for the 7th Fleet in Japan.

Anguished relatives waited for news at a naval base in Pyeongtaek, south of Seoul, some pounding their chests with grief, others shouting their displeasure at the slow pace of the rescue.

"My baby, my baby," one mother murmured, briefly losing consciousness.

"The navy is rotten to the core!" a man yelled, lunging at soldiers standing arm in arm to block angry family members from barging into the command center. □



## Superman comic sells for \$1.5M, setting record

By JAKE COYLE,  
AP Entertainment Writer  
NEW YORK – The record price for a comic book, already broken twice this year, has been shattered again.

A copy of the 1938 edition of Action Comics No. 1 sold Monday for \$1.5 million on the auction Web site

ComicConnect.com. The issue, which features Superman's debut and originally sold for 10 cents, is widely considered the Holy Grail of comic books.

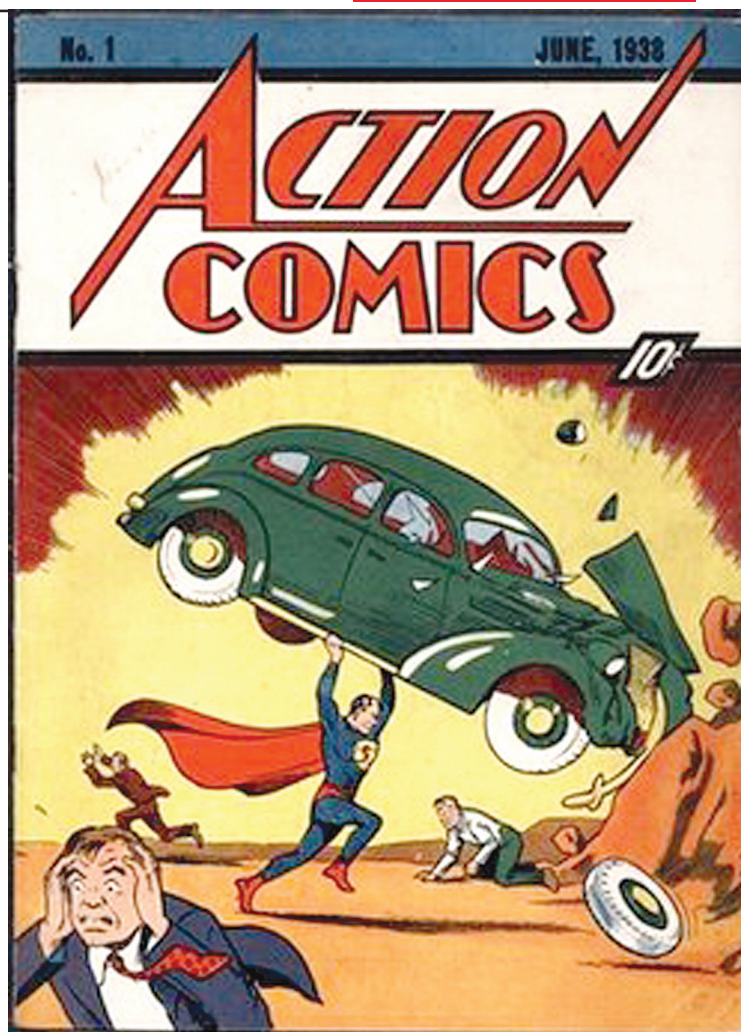
The same issue sold in February for \$1 million, though that copy wasn't in as good condition as the

issue that sold Monday. That number was bested just days later when a 1939 comic book featuring Batman's debut sold for \$75,000 more at an auction in Dallas.

There are about 100 copies of Action Comics No. 1 believed to be in existence, and only a handful in good condition. The issue that sold Monday was rated slightly higher than the one that sold in February; it had been tucked inside an old movie magazine for years before being discovered.

The issue was bought from a private collector and then sold by Stephen Fishler and Vincent Zurzolo, the co-owners of ComicConnect.com. It was bought minutes after being posted Monday at the asking price of \$1.5 million by "a hardcore comic book fan," Fishler said.

"There's been a lot of attempts to acquire this book over the last 15 years," he said. "The recent activity, I guess, did the trick." Fishler speculated that the sudden burst of record-priced sales are due to "pent-up demand." Issues of such prized comic books rarely become available for



In this comic book cover photo released by ComicConnect/Metropolis Comics, a copy of the 1938 edition of Action Comics No. 1, featuring Superman's debut, is shown.

(AP Photo/ComicConnect/Metropolis Comics)

purchase. Rarer still are issues in such good condition.

"I can't imagine another book coming on the market that exists that would top this,"

Fishler said.

"This may be the final say — at least for the next 10 or 20 years — for a record price of a comic book." □

## June Havoc, immortalized in 'Gypsy,' dies at 97

By BOB THOMAS,  
Associated Press Writer

Actress and writer June Havoc, whose childhood in vaudeville as Baby June was immortalized in the musical "Gypsy," has died in Connecticut at age 97, her publicist said Monday.

Havoc, the younger sister of famed stripper Gypsy Rose Lee, died Sunday of natural causes at her home in Stamford. Her death was confirmed by Shirley Herz, her publicist and friend.

While she never reached the fame of her sister, Havoc had a varied, successful theater career that stretched from 1918 into the next century.

With music by Jule Styne, lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and a book by Arthur Laurents, "Gypsy" is considered one of the best musicals ever written. The original 1959 production starred Ethel Merman, and it has been revived several times since. It also became a 1962 movie starring Rosalind Russell, with Natalie Wood as the grown-up Gypsy.

It focuses on the archetypal stage mother, Mama Rose, who ferociously pushes her daughter "Baby June" into vaudeville stardom at age 6 while her older sister struggles to compete.

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## Ricky Martin is livin' la vida open, says he's gay



Ricky Martin arrives at the 52nd Annual GRAMMY Awards held at Staples Center, Los Angeles, January 31, 2010

By NEKESA MUMBI  
MOODY,

AP Music Writer

NEW YORK – Ricky Martin is no longer denying the rumors: He's gay.

In a statement posted via Twitter in both Spanish and English, Martin said: "I am proud to say that I am a fortunate homosexual man. I am very blessed to be who I am."

For many, Monday's announcement will come as no surprise; the "Livin' La Vida Loca" singer's sexuality has been speculated about for years. But the Puerto Rican star, who got his start as a child in the teen group Menudo, never directly addressed it and was usually seen at events with beautiful women on his arm.

Martin, 38, said he decided to reveal the truth after working on his memoirs helped him realize that he had to be free with himself, and not keep any more secrets.

"From the moment I wrote the first phrase I was sure the book was the tool that was going to help me free myself from things I was carrying within me for a long time. Things that were too heavy for me to keep inside," he said. "Writing this account of my life, I got very close to my truth. And this is something worth celebrating."

Martin said one of the reasons

why he kept his homosexuality hidden was because he was told by some that it would hurt his career. While his U.S. career peaked after the release of his 1999 self-titled English album, a multiplatinum success that included the hits "Livin' La Vida Loca" and "Shake Your Bon-Bon," he is still a hugely successful Latin artist. "Because all this advice came from people who I love dearly, I decided to move on with my life not sharing with the world my entire truth," he said in his statement. "Allowing myself to be seduced by fear and insecurity became a self-fulfilling prophecy of sabotage. Today I take full responsibility for my decisions and my actions." Martin, who is the father of two boys born via surrogate in 2008, said he couldn't continue to hide his sexuality now that he is a father: "Enough is enough. This has to change." Martin's book is still a work in progress. □





# Stocks rise after increase in consumer spending

By TIM PARADIS,  
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Consumers are more willing to spend, and that's making investors more optimistic about the economy. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 46 points Monday and broader indexes also climbed after the Commerce Department said consumer spending rose for the fifth straight month in February. The 0.3 percent gain was in line with economists' expectations and raised hopes that the biggest driver of the economy is continuing to rebound.

Job creation and solid consumer spending are considered crucial to a sustained recovery. At the end of the week, investors will get the Labor Department's monthly employment report. Analysts predict that employers added jobs in March for only the second time since the recession began in December 2007.

Meanwhile, easing concern about debt problems in Greece reduced demand for the safety of the dollar. The dollar's drop in turn lifted demand for commodities, which become more attractive to foreign investors when the dollar falls because most of them are priced in dollars. Energy and materials stocks including Exxon Mobil Corp. and Alcoa Inc. rose.

The debt-strapped Greek government raised \$6.74 billion Monday by issuing seven-year bonds. The country's ability to borrow is an important sign of confidence after European leaders and the International Monetary Fund last week agreed to provide a financial safety net for Greece and other countries that use the euro if they couldn't issue

debt.

Financial shares were mixed after the Treasury Department said it would start to sell the shares it owns in Citigroup Inc. The government took 7.7 billion Citigroup shares in exchange for \$25 billion it gave the bank during the 2008 credit crisis. The planned sale during the next year could result in a profit of about \$7.5 billion.

The advance Monday extended a run of incremental gains since early February on expectations that the economy is improving.

"It's more of a slow steady grind higher," said Ryan Detrick, senior technical strategist at Schaeffer's Investment Research in Cincinnati.

The Dow rose 45.50, or 0.4 percent, to 10,895.86. The index is at its highest level since September 2008 and closer to the psychological threshold of 11,000.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 6.63, or 0.6 percent, to 1,173.22, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 9.23, or 0.4 percent, to 2,404.36.

Bond prices mostly fell, pushing yields higher. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note rose to 3.87 percent from 3.85 percent late Friday.

The Dow is up 987 points, or 10 percent, since its lowest close of the year on Feb. 8. Some analysts say the steady pace of the advance is a sign the market isn't getting ahead of itself by bursting higher.

"The market seems to be holding up pretty well and probably will for a while," said Frank Haines, chief investment officer at Christian Brothers Investment Services in New York. Haines said low

interest rates will help stocks for now but that longer-term threats like uncertainty about policies in Washington and rising debt levels in the U.S. and other countries could eventually hurt markets.

Investors will be looking to the Labor Department's March employment report due Friday. The stock market will be closed for Good Friday. □



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange in New York March 29, 2010.

REUTERS/Shannon Stapleton

## Geithner: Commercial real estate loans problematic

By MARCY GORDON,  
AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON — Mounting losses from commercial real estate loans will continue to be a problem for the U.S. and especially smaller banks, but it can be managed, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner said Monday.

"Commercial real estate's still going to be a problem for the country," Geithner said in an interview with CNBC. "But we can manage through this process."

Geithner also said the Treasury Department's announcement that it will begin selling the stake it owns in Citigroup Inc., which could net about \$7.5 billion to the government, shows "how far we've come" in exiting from the financial bailout program.

The government received 7.7 billion shares of Citigroup in exchange for \$25 billion of the total \$45 billion it gave the financial behemoth during the 2008 credit crisis. The Treasury Department said Monday it will sell the shares over the course of this year, depending on market conditions.

Like any investor, the government will likely hold on to its shares if prices fall steeply. However, Citi shares have steadily been rising with the broader market in recent months, which means the government is likely to pocket a hefty profit as it sells its shares over several months.

The government has been trying to unravel the investments it made in banks under the \$700 billion Troubled Asset Relief Program, or TARP, that came in at the height of the financial crisis.

Geithner said in the interview the government doesn't want to keep an ownership stake in the financial companies "a day longer than necessary."

The government will use a "careful process" to balance two objectives, he said: ensuring maximum return on the taxpayers' investment while also getting the U.S. out of the business of owning private companies.

While losses on mortgage loans socked banks at the beginning of the 2008 financial crisis, it is commercial and development loans that have brought dramatic losses for banks in recent months.

Losses have mounted on loans for commercial projects like stores and office complexes, as buildings sit vacant and builders default. Many midsize and regional banks hold large concentrations of those loans.

FDIC Chairman Sheila Bair has said losses on commercial real estate loans are expected to be the primary cause behind bank failures this year, which are likely to exceed the 140 collapses in 2009.

One way to help manage the commercial loan distress, Geithner said, is through the \$30 billion fund proposed by President Barack Obama to provide money to midsize and community banks if they boost lending to small businesses. The program, which must be approved by Congress, would use money repaid by banks to the TARP program.

Many lawmakers, however, want the \$30 billion sent directly to the federal Small Business Administration. It would then decide which businesses should get loans. □



# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY

### Hamlin surges to victory at Martinsville

By HANK KURZ Jr.

AP Sports Writer

MARTINSVILLE, Va.

— Denny Hamlin and crew chief Mike Ford were in a tough spot, leading a race with a dominant car and eight laps to go when a caution forced a decision. If they headed for pit road, the cars right behind them would stay on the track, gambling they could win a short sprint to the finish on old tires.

And if they stayed on the track, the rest would pit, get fresh tires and surely run them down.

They picked pit road, and Hamlin made it work in a remarkable finish at Martinsville Speedway, rallying from ninth place by almost recklessly bull-rushing his way through the field during a pair of two-lap sprints on the shortest, oldest track in NASCAR.

Hamlin passed Ryan Newman, Matt Kenseth and leader Jeff Gordon following the final restart to earn his third career victory here.

“That’s hard to do. I had to bully my way through there towards the end, but everybody was just running into everyone,” Hamlin said of his surge from the outside of the second row.

“I flattened my tire with Kenseth going down the backstretch and just somehow made it work.”

First, he hugged the inside into the first turn, forcing three-wide racing that almost never leads to good things, especially on a narrow 0.526-mile oval. He plowed his way into fourth before teammate Kyle Busch spun out, bringing



Denny Hamlin (11) takes the checkered flag as teammate Joey Logano (20) follows during the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race at Martinsville Speedway in Martinsville, Va., Monday, March 29, 2010.

Associated Press

out a very timely caution. Ahead of him, Gordon was poised to cross the start-finish line and take the white flag, which almost certainly would have allowed him to win the race with the lead Hamlin handed him. But when the yellow flew before Gordon got to the line, a two-lap sprint was required.

“We had the thing wrapped up,” Gordon said. And then he didn’t, and Hamlin had one more power move to make.

He pushed Newman out of the way on the restart, then watched as Kenseth and Gordon dueled. Both eventually slid up the track on older tires, allowing Hamlin to dart underneath for the victory.

“What can you do? When

you’re the leader, it’s bad in a lot of different ways on a short track because you’re at the mercy of the guy behind you,” Hamlin said. Gordon said NASCAR threw the caution when Busch spun to set up the finish.

“It was pretty obvious to me that NASCAR wanted to do a green-white-checkered finish,” he said. “There were cars blowing tires, hitting the wall, and they weren’t throwing the caution. One spins out, and they throw the caution in the blink of an eye.”

The race originally was scheduled for Sunday, but was postponed by rain. The finish delighted about 30,000 fans who came out to watch on a work day.

Hamlin’s Joe Gibbs Racing

teammate, Joey Logano, was second, followed by Gordon, Newman and Martin Truex Jr. Four-time defending series champion Jimmie Johnson was never in contention to win, but finished ninth and assumed the points lead by 14 over Kenseth.

He had a great view of the finish, too.

“It looked pretty crazy from where I was sitting,” he said.

All day, the race shaped up as a two-car battle between Hamlin and Jeff Burton, with the Virginians leading almost all of the final 300 laps. That was until Hamlin and Busch pitted with eight laps to go, handing Gordon his first lead since early in the race.

Burton lost a tire with eight laps left, causing the caution, and wound up 20th.

Gordon has won seven times at Martinsville, most among active drivers, and was fully aware that Hamlin had fresh tires and aimed to take the lead back on the last restart.

“All I can tell you is you know it’s gonna get wild and crazy,” Gordon said. Hamlin led six times for 172 laps, and had led 89 straight when he pitted.

The day was a long one for Kevin Harvick, who started the day as the points leader, led the first 44 laps after starting on the pole and was running in the top five when something broke on his car and he headed to the garage. When he returned, he was 34 laps behind.

He later returned to the garage, finished 35th and fell to fourth in points.q



Washington Capitals left wing Alex Ovechkin (8), of Russia, celebrates his goal during the second period of an NHL hockey game against the Calgary Flames, Sunday, March 28, 2010, in Washington. The Flames won 5-3.

Associated Press

### NHL Roundup Desperate Flames dominate NHL- leading Caps 5-3

WASHINGTON (AP) — The desperate Calgary Flames posted one of their most impressive victories of the season, scoring four goals in the first period of a 5-3 win over the Washington Capitals on Sunday.

The Flames temporarily delayed the Capitals’ bid to secure the top seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs. Washington secured that, anyway, later in the day when New Jersey lost at Philadelphia.

Calgary, ninth in the Western Conference, salvaged a three-game road trip that began with two losses.

Ales Kotalik, Ian White, Jay Bouwmeester, Niklas Hagman and Rene Bourque scored for the Flames. Miikka Kiprusoff made 31 saves.

Alex Ovechkin got his 46th goal for Washington and added an assist to reach the 100-point mark for the fourth time in a season in his five-year NHL career.

Continued on Page 15





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# Els hangs on with clutch putts to win at Bay Hill

**DOUG FERGUSON**  
AP Golf Writer

ORLANDO, Florida (AP) — Ernie Els survived a few nervous moments by making two clutch par putts to win the rain-delayed Arnold Palmer Invitational in a Monday finish for his second PGA Tour victory in a row after a two-year drought.

Coming off a four-shot victory in the World Golf Championship at Doral two weeks ago, Els closed with a 1-under 71 at Bay Hill to win for the 18th time in his PGA Tour career and made it consecutive wins for the first time since 2003.

He was relieved upon holing an 8-foot par putt on the final hole, giving him a two-shot victory over Kevin Na and Edoardo Molinari of Italy.

This was Els' second victory at Bay Hill, the other coming 11 years ago in a 36-hole Sunday because of rain.

Els, who finished at 11-under 277, became the first player since Tiger Woods in 2001 to win twice on the Florida Swing. The 40-year-old South African is to play the Houston Open before going to the Masters, where he will be among the top favorites.

"I think he's going to be tough at Augusta," Palmer said after greeting Els behind the 18th green.

The victory was worth \$1.08 million and put Els atop the PGA Tour money list with more than \$3 million. He moves to No. 7 in the world. Retief Goosen (69) and Chris

Couch (71) tied for fourth. Ben Curtis, who started the final round one shot out of the lead, closed with a 74 and finished alone in sixth.

Els had a five-shot lead Sunday afternoon and was cruising toward victory when he took double bogey from the water on No. 13 and bogey from the sand on the next hole. Then came the siren to stop play as thunderstorms approached, and rain drenched Bay Hill into the morning.

"The last 20 hours I couldn't stop thinking about trying to finish this thing," Els said.

Els had to make a 6-foot par putt on the 15th to keep his two-shot lead. Na had a two-putt birdie ahead of him on the 16th to get within one shot, and Els had a plugged lie in the face of the bunker on the 17th. On the verge of

losing the rest of his big lead, Els blasted out to just over 6 feet and knocked in the par putt to keep the lead.

Na drove into the rough on the 18th, had to lay up and missed an 8-foot par putt for a 3-under 69. He slung his ball into the water, knowing he had made it just a little bit easier for Els.

"There's no chance," Na said when asked if he could have gone for the 18th green. "Even Tiger Woods couldn't have gotten over the water. With the lie as wet as it is, there's absolutely no chance." Molinari made a 50-foot birdie on the 17th and shot 69 to share second place to earn \$528,000.

Els played it safe on the 18th, missing the green well to the left and away from the water, then chipped down to 8 feet



Ernie Els, left, of South Africa, holds up the first place trophy with Arnold Palmer after winning the Arnold Palmer Invitational golf tournament at Bay Hill in Orlando, Fla., Monday, March 29, 2010.

*Associated Press*

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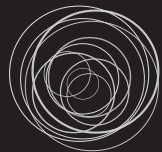
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## NBA Roundup

# Redick lifts Magic past Nuggets

Orlando Magic guard J.J. Redick shoots a 3-pointer against the Denver Nuggets during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Orlando, Fla., on Sunday, March 28, 2010. The Magic won 103-97.

*Associated Press*

### The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Florida (AP) — J.J. Redick had 23 points and career highs of eight assists and seven rebounds in place of an injured Vince Carter as he helped the Orlando Magic beat the Denver Nuggets 103-97 on Sunday night.

Redick played a career-high 46 minutes after Carter injured his right big toe. The Magic also got a big boost with 19 points from reserve Ryan Anderson for their 13th win in the last 15 games. Carmelo Anthony had 26 points and eight rebounds, and Chauncey Billups finished with 18 points for the struggling Nuggets, who have lost four of their past five games. At Boston, Manu

Ginobili scored 28 points, and Richard Jefferson had 16 points and 11 rebounds to lead San Antonio over the Celtics. Tim Duncan had eight points and nine rebounds, and DeJuan Blair added seven points and 11 boards for the Spurs, who have won 12 of 16 to move into a three-way share of sixth place with Portland and Oklahoma City in the Western Conference.

Paul Pierce scored 18 points, and Kevin Garnett had 12 points and 10 rebounds for Boston. It was the Celtics' lowest point total of the season, their worst home loss of the year and their third loss by 20 or more since Feb. 25. Trail Blazers 92, Thunder 87. At Oklahoma City, Andre Miller scored 26 points, Brandon Roy added 20 as Portland won to move into a share of sixth place with the Thunder in the Western Conference.

The Blazers have won 11 of their last 13 games to strengthen their position in the West playoff race and can clinch a spot in the postseason with three wins in the last eight games.

Durant finished with 29 points for Oklahoma City, which was coming off an impressive blowout win against the West-leading Los Angeles Lakers only two nights earlier.

At Cleveland, LeBron James scored 23 of his 34 points in the second half and Antawn Jamison added 26 as the Cavs welcomed back center Zydrunas Ilgauskas with a victory over Sacramento.

With Cleveland leading by four, James made a crucial 3-pointer with 2:02 left and then had a rebound and steal to help seal it. Cleveland went 10-0

against the Pacific Division this season.

Beno Udrih had his first career triple-double (18 points, 15 assists and 10 rebounds) for the Kings, who because of injuries dressed only eight players and then lost forward Dominic McGuire in the first quarter with a foot injury.

At Milwaukee, John Salmons scored 10 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter and overtime as the Bucks rallied to avoid a third straight loss.

Rookie Brandon Jennings added 29 points, eight assists and seven rebounds, and Andrew Bogut had 18 points and 11 rebounds in his return after missing a game with a sore back.

Zach Randolph led Memphis with 31 points and 15 rebounds.

At Atlanta, Josh Smith had 21 points and 13 rebounds as the Hawks ended Indiana's five-game winning streak while increasing their own winning run at home to eight games.

Troy Murphy scored 21 for Indiana, which was trying to win six straight games for the first time since 2005. Danny Granger, who was coming off a career-high 44 points in a home win Friday over Utah, finished with 18. He had averaged 31.9 over the previous seven games.

**In other NBA games it was, Milwaukee 108, Memphis 103, OT; Cleveland 97, Sacramento 90; Atlanta 94, Indiana 84; Chicago 110, Detroit 103; Miami 97, Toronto 94; Orlando 103, Denver 97; Phoenix 111, Minnesota 105; Portland 92, Oklahoma City 87; San Antonio 94, Boston 73; and Golden State 121, L.A. Clippers 103.** □

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# Venus advances, Federer beats Serra at Key Biscayne

STEVEN WINE

AP Sports Writer

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida (AP) — An unusually inconsistent Roger Federer beat Florent Serra 7-6 (2), 7-6 (3) on Monday in the third round of the Sony Ericsson Open.

The top-ranked Federer lost serve three times, each time when he led. He committed 35 unforced errors to 32 for Serra.

But Federer won eight consecutive service points in the tiebreakers and closed out the victory with a service winner.

“All in all, I’m thrilled to be through,” he said. “At the end of the day, that’s what counts.”

The crowd included Rafael Nadal, a potential opponent in Sunday’s final.

“It has always been a lot of fun playing against him,” Federer said. “I hope that day is going to come soon again.”

Venus Williams rallied to beat Daniela Hantuchova 1-6, 7-5, 6-4 in the fourth round, sweeping the final seven points. She overcame 45 unforced errors, including 11 as she lost the first four games.

Williams is seeking her fourth Key Biscayne title, but her first since 2001. Her quarterfinal opponent will be No. 6

## NHL ROUNDUP

### Continued from Page 12

#### Penguins 5, Maple Leafs 4, SO

At Pittsburgh, Sidney Crosby scored twice and teammate Pascal Dupuis added shootout tallies as the Penguins rallied to beat Toronto.

The home team trailed 4-3 until Matt Cooke deflected defenseman Brooks Orpik’s slap shot from the right point with 3:48 remaining in regulation. Orpik had his first three-point game by also assisting on Crosby’s NHL-leading 46th and 47th goals.

Tyler Kennedy also scored as the Penguins moved ahead of New Jersey for the Atlantic Division lead and the likely No. 2 seeding in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

#### Flyers 5, Devils 1

At Philadelphia, Brian Boucher stopped 32 shots as slumping Philadelphia broke out with a rout of New Jersey.

Matt Carle, Ville Leino, Kimmo Timonen, Lukas Krajcek and Simon Gagne scored for Philadelphia, which beat the Devils for the fifth time in six meetings this season.

Ilya Kovalchuk scored the lone goal for New Jersey, which dropped two points behind Pittsburgh in the Atlantic Division. Martin Brodeur allowed four goals on 19 shots.

The Flyers had dropped five straight and seven of eight, putting their seemingly secure playoff chances in jeopardy. Philadelphia scored more than three goals for the first time in 15 games.

Philadelphia jumped from eighth in the Eastern Conference to sixth.

#### Blue Jackets 4, Blackhawks 2

At Chicago, Jakub Voracek had two goals and an assist, while Steve Mason made 33 saves to lead Columbus over the hosts.

Andrew Murray and Mike Commodore also scored for Columbus, which beat

Central Division-leading Chicago for the second time in four days.

#### Blues 2, Oilers 1

At St. Louis, Keith Tkachuk scored the winning goal on his 38th birthday, and the Blues maintained slim playoff hopes with a victory over Edmonton.

Tkachuk’s 13th goal of the season was his first in 15 games and broke a 1-1 deadlock 7:36 into the third period.

#### Sharks 4, Avalanche 3


At San Jose, Devin Setoguchi had two goals as the Sharks won despite the absence injured leading scorer Joe Thornton.

Thornton, tops on the team with 66 assists and 85 points, sat out Sunday after being knocked out in the second period of Saturday’s win over Vancouver. Thornton had played in 398 consecutive games.


San Jose has a four-point lead over Phoenix in the race for the Pacific Division title.

Colorado, the eighth-place team in the West, leads Calgary by four points at the postseason cutoff line.

**In other NHL matches:** Pittsburgh 5, Toronto 4, SO; Calgary 5, Washington 3; St. Louis 2, Edmonton 1; Philadelphia 5, New Jersey 1; Columbus 4, Chicago 2; and San Jose 4, Colorado 3. □



**KEEP ARUBA CLEAN**



**THANKS FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION**



Roger Federer, of Switzerland, returns to Florent Serra, of France, during the Sony Ericsson Open tennis tournament in Key Biscayne, Fla., Monday, March 29, 2010.

Associated Press

Agnieszka Radwanska, who beat Yaroslava Shvedova 6-1, 6-4.

The top-seeded woman, Svetlana Kuznetsova, was hampered by a right shoulder injury and lost to Marion Bartoli 6-3, 6-0 in the fourth round.

Kuznetsova, the 2006 champion, required treatment from a trainer three times during the match and won only eight points in the second set.

“I almost had stars in my eyes, it was so painful,” Kuznetsova said. “I cannot return. Then I cannot serve.”

The upset was nothing new for the 13th-seeded Bartoli, who has won seven of her past 11 matches against top five players.

Bartoli advanced to the quarterfinals at Key Biscayne for the second time. She also reached the final eight as a qualifier in 2003.

Mardy Fish reached the fourth round with his second consecutive win over a seeded opponent, beating No. 29 Feliciano Lopez 7-5, 6-3. Fish upset defending champion Andy Murray in the second round.

Federer’s fourth-round opponent will be No. 16 Tomas Berdych, who beat Horacio Zeballos 6-4, 7-5.

The Key Biscayne champion in 2005-06, Federer has won 36 matches in the tournament, third behind Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras. □

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## Bijleveld shares concerns about alternative abortions

THE HAGUE--Dutch State Secretary for Kingdom Relations Ank Bijleveld-Schouten shares the concerns of the Second Chamber about reports of illegal abortion practices in the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba.

She stated this in response to questions posed by Members of Dutch Parliament (MPs) Ineke van Gent of the green left party GroenLinks and Johan Remkes of the liberal democratic VVD party. Van Gent and Remkes posed questions about illegal abortion practices on the islands following media reports and the thesis of Wendele van der Wiele.

Bijleveld-Schouten has forwarded several of the questions by Van Gent and Remkes to the Governments of the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba with the request to provide information.

*Continued on Page 6*

AHATA CEO James Hepple:

## ATA brings new responsibilities to the private sector

*A new independent Aruba Tourism Authority*



ORANJESTAD - The Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association is facing a new world, now that the association achieved one of its biggest strives.

This is, an independent Aruba Tourism Authority to effectively promote Aruba overseas. AHATA CEO James Hepple gave this statement in view of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Aruba and AHATA on the creation of the Aruba Tourism Marketing Fund, en route to a financially independent Aruba Tourism Authority by January first 2010.

The MoU signed last week has a number of key elements, according to Hepple, including the fact that the marketing programs will be funded by a room levy which will be the equivalent of a 9.5% room tax. This levy will apply to all hotels and time share operations which sell transient rooms, not just AHATA members. Any local administration and general costs of the local ATA will continue to be funded from the Government's central fund, not from the marketing fund. The independent ATA is to be supervised by a seven person Board. The AHATA Board of Directors will appoint three persons to this Board, the Minister of Tourism, Labor and Transportation will appoint a further three persons and these six directors together will appoint a seventh independent director. All of this is to be enshrined in legislation. Hepple congratulated Aruba for taking the steps to allocate all funds destined for marketing of Aruba into a separate account at the Central Bank, which entails the room tax will not end up in the government's consolidated central fund.

*Continued on Page B3*

## A Spectacular Bridal Expo at Westin Aruba Resort



Special edition

By Angela Munzenhofer

WESTIN- On March 28, 2010 at the Westin Aruba Resort the 11th annual Bridal Expo extravaganzas took place from 11-5pm in the Grand Beach Ballroom. Patrick Leppers, Wedding coordinator and Inge van Roon, Catering sales manager did an outstanding job choreographing this whole event without a flaw. The event was a total hit for all the locals and tourists alike who filled up the ballroom to see the Bridal Expo.

*Continued on Pages B8 & B9*





# Early Easter celebration at Tierra del Sol



WEST PUNT – Tierra del Sol Resort, Spa & Country Club hosted a special event for Aruba's Indian community celebrating Easter on the back lawn of Ventanas del Mar Restaurant.

In the spirit of India, where every festival is celebrated with great cheer and in the spirit of that country's cultural diversity, the Easter Egg Hunt and Garden Party drew a great number of kids and adults who enjoyed games and refreshments in the open air.

Ventanas del Mar is gearing up for a fantastic Easter celebration next Sunday, as the restaurant presents its family brunch which includes a spectacular menu accompanied by live entertainment and a memorable Easter egg hunt for the kids. □





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# ATA brings new responsibilities to the private sector

*Continued from Page B1*

"This is a bold decision and one which should be congratulated. I know that many other tourist boards have requested the same thing elsewhere and have never been able to achieve this."

There are a number of positive ramifications, Hepple continued. Marketing plans and budgets can be prepared well in advance because the fund's income will be easy to project. The proposed levy means that funds for 2011 can already be calculated and therefore, planning for 2011 can begin this summer with implementation of programs effective immediately in January 2011. "The fact that the income stream can be projected, this will allow much more efficient and effective long term planning and as the funding is directly linked to the room levy the better the sector performs the more money will be available for marketing." Additionally, the new structure increases the amount of money available for marketing Aruba, while an independent ATA will operate on commercial principles and will be able to generate its own income, things not currently possible with the existing arrangement. The AHATA CEO said he hopes the new marketing arrangement will have a positive implication for the funding of the Aruba Hotel and Security Foundation as well. Responsibility James Hepple reminded AHATA members that the new public/private partnership

translates to responsibilities for the private sector, where the final transactions are closed. "So we have a responsibility to assist in marketing where necessary, particularly when it comes to relationship marketing with key generators of business in our overseas markets. And we have a responsibility to listen to our visitors and act upon their feedback where required if we are to remain competitive." One key area is pricing, particularly in Food and Beverage. "Whilst we understand there are high costs to doing business we must strive to improve productivity and deliver value for money as we cannot afford to gain a reputation for being expensive," Hepple commented. With a new marketing structure, AHATA too has to undergo transformation, and a new AHATA will have three main functions, said James Hepple. These are the provision of marketing input and monitoring of marketing performance of the ATMF and the independent ATA; the provision of membership services to members; and advocacy on behalf of members to represent their interests to the Government. He mentioned issues like beach management, broader environmental, taxation and labor as examples, as well as safety and security issues. Tourism dependency According to the World Travel and Tourism Council, Aruba is the second most tourism dependent economy in the world. More than 70% of Aruba's



Gross Domestic Product is derived from the spending of visitors and 90% of employment depends upon the spending of visitors. These numbers are not likely to change in the short to medium term.

James Hepple cited Aruba's National Integrated Strategic Plan, which maps out a vision in 2025 and recommends a Diversified Strategic Growth scenario for the economy. This vision limits the growth of the tourism sector and reduces its relative importance. "But it will be some years before this is realized.

The basic thrust of this policy is that it calls for a strong focus on quality not quantity and that the tourism sector's growth should come through enhanced revenues and through catering to the high end niche segments of the

market not through the attraction of large volumes of mass tourism."

According to the AHATA CEO, feedback from residents and visitors alike, calls for a slowing in the pace of development. From the industry itself the call is for improved profitability which will only come from the attraction of affluent clients willing to pay the relatively high prices of Aruba's tourism product.

"Thus our basic understanding of the way ahead is that the marketing of Aruba should focus very much on finding ways to attract and retain affluent visitors, comfortable paying relatively high prices that is a quality strategy. This in turn demands that we offer high quality positive experiences," was the conclusion of AHATA CEO James Hepple. □

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## Aruba Marriott Hosts "The Morning Show with Jim & Kim"



PALM BEACH – On March 29 and 30 the Aruba Marriott hosts a 2-day live radio broadcast in New York on channel 102.7 Fresh FM. The Fresh 102.7 FM's morning show features the popular duo Jim and Kim who launched the new program in October 2009.

Between the morning hours



of 6 to 10 am on Monday and Tuesday, Jim and Kim were live on air from the beachfront Waves Bar & Grill at the Aruba Marriott Resort, promoting Aruba as a perfect vacation destination. Aruba Tourism Authority's (ATA) PR representative Natalie Maduro was invited for a short interview, explaining a little more about the Aruban culture and its native language Papiamentu. Also, guests of the Aruba Marriott properties were encouraged to say hi to their family and friends in the New York region.

During the short 3 day visit the radio crew of Fresh 102.7 FM was able to experience the island of Aruba during a jeep & snorkel tour provided by the Aruba Tourism Authority and a magnificent welcome dinner at Marriott's beachfront restaurant Simply Fish.

Radio host Kim Berk quickly learned to say "hopi dushi", referring to an excellent time they're having in Aruba. The morning show with Jim & Kim from 6-10 am reaches over 4 million listeners in the New York area on a weekly basis as well as online listeners worldwide on <http://fresh1027.radio.com/shows/jim-kim/>. The radio station is a CBS-affiliate and usually operates on weekdays from their hometown of New York City.



In the pictures: the radio crew of Fresh FM enjoying their welcome dinner at Marriott's Simple Fish restaurant; Jim & Kim broadcasting live from the Aruba Marriott; Jim & Kim interviewing ATA's PR

rep Natalie Maduro; the radio crew of Fresh FM enjoying the view of Palm Beach at the Marriott; Jim and Kim making a stop at the Wishing Rocks during their island tour in Aruba. □



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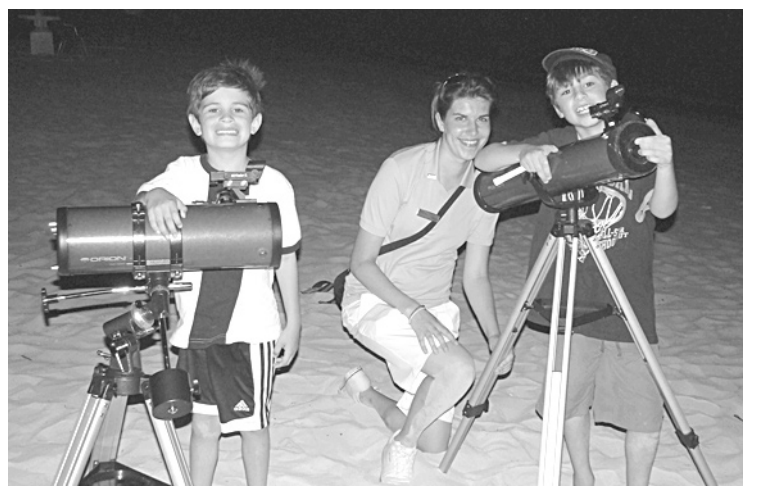


# Westin Resort, Aruba observes EARTH HOUR 2010

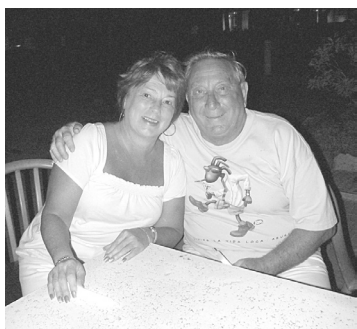


PALM BEACH -- This past Saturday evening, Westin Resort, Aruba turned off its lights in observance of Earth Hour, a worldwide event organized by the World Wildlife Fund to send a powerful global message about environmental awareness and caring for the planet. Nearly one billion people turned out for Earth Hour 2010 worldwide.

To underscore parent Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide Inc.'s dedication to environmental sustainability, Westin Resort, Aruba shared other energy-saving measures during last Saturday's Earth Hour at 8:30pm. Among them : Turning off exterior signage lighting; dimming or turning off non-essential interior lighting; using candlelight in appropriate public areas such as restaurants and bars; and using in-room voicemail messages and in-room television messages to inform guests about Earth Hour observances.



Guests enjoyed a special planetary punch, lemon drops, Happy Hour at the resort's poolside Tambu Bar with organic cocktails from 8:30pm – 9:30pm, fireside cocktails, as well as live unplugged steel band surrounded by candle light. Children enjoyed fireside story telling and stargazing.



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**BIJLEVELD**  
*Continued from Page B1*

The MPs had asked about the consequences of the legal prohibition of abortion on the islands. Van Gent and Remkes wanted to know how many women resorted to alternative methods to provoke abortion, which methods these women used, and what the health consequences were of these alternative methods. They also asked about the supervision of medical tolerability of these alternative methods. They wanted to know whether it was true that general practitioners performed abortions, but that because of the high cost involved, women resorted to alternative methods.

Bijleveld-Schouten said in first instance, this

matter concerned the internal affairs of the governments of the islands. She wanted to await the answers by the Governments of the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba to obtain a better insight into the size and nature of the problem.

The State Secretary said the Second Chamber, in early March, approved an amendment by Remkes, Van Gent, and John Leerdam of the Labour Party PvdA, to legalise abortion on the BES islands of Bonaire, St. Eustatius, and Saba in one year. Abortion is legal in the Netherlands and the Second Chamber agreed that this was a fundamental right of women that should also apply to the BES islands when they become part of the Netherlands as “public entities.” □

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	daily:	5:45	8:15	
	matinee: 12:30	3:15	late show:	11:00
<b>R</b>	<b>EDGE OF DARKNESS</b>			
	daily:	4:30	7:00	9:30
	matinee: 1:45		late show:	12:00
<b>PG</b>	<b>BROOKLYN'S FINEST</b>			
	daily:	6:00	8:45	
	matinee: 12:00	3:00	late show:	11:30
<b>PG</b>	<b>VALENTINE'S DAY</b>			
	daily:	6:30	9:00	
	matinee: 12:45	3:45	late show:	11:45
<b>PG</b>	<b>ALICE IN WONDERLAND</b>			
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	daily:	4:30	6:45	
	matinee: 12:00	2:15	late show:	
<b>R</b>	<b>CASE 39</b>			
	daily:	5:45	8:15	
	matinee: 12:15	3:00	late show:	11:00
<b>PG-13</b>	<b>OUR FAMILY WEDDING</b>			
	daily:	5:30	7:45	9:45
	matinee: 12:45	3:00	late show:	12:00
<b>R</b>	<b>FROM PARIS WITH LOVE</b>			
	daily:	9:00		
	matinee:		late show:	11:30
<b>R</b>	<b>GREEN ZONE</b>			
	daily:	6:30	9:00	
	matinee: 1:00	3:45	late show:	11:30
<b>R</b>	<b>SHUTTTER ISLAND</b>			
	daily:	5:45	8:45	
	matinee:	2:45	late show:	11:45

Matinee: sat - sun | Late show: fri & sat





## The best Seafood is at Fishes & More

PALM BEACH – Fishes & More Restaurant in the Arawak Gardens in Palm Beach has been a great success since day one. It is said once you taste their fishes, you will always come back for more. Now you can enjoy their completely new renovated dining atmosphere.

Owners Jeroen Kuling & Hans

Heijink work exceptionally hard to ensure the restaurant is at its best for everyone to enjoy. The courteous and friendly staff will pamper you from 4 pm till 11pm, every day of the week.

Come in early for the daily fresh catches, such as red snapper, grouper, mahi mahi,

wahoo and tuna. Check with the server to find out about the Catch of the day. The chef will be more than happy to prepare your fish the way you like it best: grilled, deep-fried, pan-fried or the chef's choice. Every Wednesday, seafood specials are prepared depending on what the Fishermen bring in fresh out of the water that afternoon.

Fishes and More is for everyone. For those who like to try something different, for those who can't shake the seafood addiction, for those who want to eat a great piece of veal, or pasta, everyone is more than welcome.

Arawak Gardens is right across from the hotels. We invite you to take a little walk to a grand dinner!



**For more  
information or  
reservations  
call  
586-3659**

## Aruba's favorite new restaurant at Palm Beach Plaza



Owner Victor Nataf in collaboration with his food and décor savvy sons Dav-eed and Gregory recently opened their newest island restaurant affiliated to the

popular Casa Tua Barcelona in Oranjestad and Casa Tua Pizzeria on Palm Beach.

Casa Tua Mediterrannée's professional kitchen crew to present rich and varied mezethes for tastings, a selection of Greek, Spanish and Arab appetizers against the musical backdrop of Angela Croes' fla-

menco music gorgeous dancers. Casa Tua Mediterrannée offers a contemporary Mediterranean style. The décor by Daveed Nataf features dark wood, straight-lined furniture, on the outdoor wrap-around terrace and in the air-conditioned dining room.

Rave reviews about the food, and caring personalized service, make this new place a perfect spot for people who love to live, and love to eat and party! Join us tonight at Aruba's Newest Restaurants and Bar right in Palm Beach Plaza!



### MENU SPOTLIGHTS

Traditional dishes from Greece such as the famous Tzatziki (yogurt & cucumber dip), Dolmakia (stuffed wine leaves), Moussaka (eggplant, lamb meat, béchamel sauce melted cheese and cinnamon) From Tunisia and Morocco egg Brecka, Couscous (lamb, beef and veggie stew with our special Ras el Hanout spices), Ganaouia (beef and okra stew) Beef, lamb and chicken kebab

... Famous Italian Pizzas and a selection of pastas South of France Mussels in "Persillade"

.... Belly dancers every night champagne by the glass, champagne that we import ourselves from France

**For Reservations Call  
586- 8275**





# A Spectacular Bridal Expo at Westin Aruba Resort



*Continued from Page B1*

The event was a perfect expo for those inquiring about future bridal, communion, special functions and everything to do with creating your event to be a perfect one.

The Westin did an outstanding job at creating the perfect atmosphere as Fernando Mansur put in all his special

touches to create such a magnificent ambiance with striking details to make this event perfect. The fashion show put on by Creation Aimee was mesmerizing as everyone clapped to the bridal designs, communion, & Sweet 15 choreographed show by Heidi Munzenhofer.



Elite Productions, Cakes by Phillip, L'Oreal, A Touch of Steel, Tropical Bottling Company, Brouwerij Natinal

Balashi N.V., Emperatriz Perdomo Fotografia, Tango Tours, Pelican Adventures, Caribbean Food Service, Ish



Media & Broadcasting, Luxury Rides Limousine Services and the sponsors were Magic F.M, Canal 90 & Interprint. As you can see in the photos this Expo was an incredible

affair not to have been missed. An applause to everyone who participated in making this event a success!

*Photos by Angela Munzenhofer*

## Spectacular seafood special at Driftwood

From the pier to your plate at authentic Aruban seafood restaurant

**ORANJESTAD - It's happening downtown. Established Driftwood Restaurant launches a serie of spectacular and delicious seafood specials, available now.**

Driftwood is specialized in fresh seafood from the Caribbean Sea and has become the favorite spot for Aruban-style seafood dishes. Fresh fish is caught daily by the owner himself and



perfectly and authentically prepared by their talented local Chef.

Located in the heart of characteristic downtown, Driftwood offers you a unique dining experience. Enjoy the freshest fish, biggest shrimp, or the most succulent Caribbean lobster amid the rustic ambience of the natural driftwood dining room.

*The authentic local seafood restaurant.*

The menu includes a large variety of typically Aruban delicacies including a three star fish soup and a mouth-watering filet of fish served with a mild Aruban Creole sauce... a seafood lover's dream come true.

Opening hours: every day, but Tuesdays from 5pm till 10:30pm.



**Special of the month**

Every month the Chef treats his customers with a delicious dinner special. In June one may choose from different soups, fish cakes or salads to start with. The main

course is a choice of catch of the day (prepared your way), Jumbo Shrimp or for the meatlovers Filet Mignon or Chicken Breast. The evening is topped with a grand dessert and coffee or tea.

**Driftwood Restaurant**  
Klipstraat 12, Oranjestad  
Reservations: **583 2515**

Email: [info@driftwoodaruba.com](mailto:info@driftwoodaruba.com)  
Website: [www.driftwoodaruba.com](http://www.driftwoodaruba.com)

**Special of the Month:**  
**3-course dinner** →  
Appetizer - Entree - Dessert

**\$24**  
per person





# Aqua Grill... "the hip restaurant that is heaven on earth for seafood lovers," Fodor's Travel Guide



Among the island's many fine restaurants, Aqua Grill is the premier seafood sensation. Excitingly prepared in an open-view kitchen, fresh local catches join delicacies from waters abroad, including live Maine lobster, Norwegian salmon, sashimi tuna, and Alaskan king crab, along with a selection of non-seafood dishes.

Aqua Grill's award-winning chef offers a menu of classic and contemporary dishes. The fresh

seafood is prepared in a variety of regional styles, melding local island charm with the traditions of New England, the spices of Jamaica, the zesty flavors of Italy, the mystique of Indonesia, and beyond.

In addition to a selection of authentic dishes, your seafood can also be prepared wood-grilled, broiled, poached, steamed, or pan-fried upon request. Complimenting the menu is the island's

largest raw bar and a generous wine list of over one hundred selections.

Set in a contemporary decor combining the traditions of a New England fish house with the ease and character of the Caribbean, Aqua Grill's warm, island hospitality is the final ingredient to the complete dining experience on Aruba.

Open nightly from 6pm to 11pm, 5:00pm to 11:00pm on Sunday. □

## Life's a Beach at the Juggling Fish



Palm Beach -- The Juggling Fish at Playa Linda Beach Resort is designed to stimulate your shopping instincts, as the beautiful store is hard to resist. What you'll find on the oceanfront boardwalk is absolutely gorgeous: hand picked gifts, souvenirs, beach and resort wear, it's all on display a few steps from the water.

The tastefully arranged store is

signature Boston-born Jodi Tobman, also the owner of the brand-new Lazy Lizard, in the South Beach Centre. You will find a great selection of kid gifts here.

In fact an entire inner section is dedicated to gifts with a tropical appeal for babies and toddlers, among them whimsical plush stuffed iguanas, parrots and seahorses. Moreover, a bonanza of



fridge magnets, hand-made silver jewelry, batik beach wraps, throws and hats also awaits you.

Gift hunters will be pleased with the array of scented candles and candleholders. The store offers convenient barefoot browsing possibilities and is located within a short walking distance from the Hyatt Regency and the Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort.

The Juggling Fish at Playa



Linda fits nicely into that resort's "Life's a Beach" philosophy. Open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and on Sunday, when the rest of the island is at a standstill, the helpful staff at the Juggling Fish Playa Linda Beach Resort is eager to serve you with a smile from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m. Tel.: +297 586 4999.

Email: [orders@salamanderholdings.com](mailto:orders@salamanderholdings.com) □



# Eat Right: 18 Tips That Really Matter Pt. 3

*An à la carte menu to simplify your diet, get healthy, save the earth — and save money*



## 13. Buy in Bulk

Why buy in bulk?

Two reasons: Less packaging, and less cost.

Packaging materials make up more than 30% of all consumer waste, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Buying in bulk eliminates packaging waste.

Beyond bulk, look for minimally packaged items, and items that are packaged in 100% post-consumer recycled materials, or can be composted.

Eliminate disposable bag waste by buying a couple good reusable bags -- preferably made from recycled materials -- and remember to carry them with you to the market, so you don't have to struggle with the old "paper or plastic" question.

## 14. Check for Recalls

Why? Green eating is about preserving the land, but it's also about improving your health. Organic and natural foods are not immune from recalls, as the recent peanut

and pistachio recalls showed.

More often, recalls are indicators of larger problems in the food system. They demonstrate how industrialized and centralized food processing can introduce pathogens -- E. coli bacteria, salmonella, etc. -- into the food supply, and then circulate them widely throughout the U.S. or world in countless processed foods.

The Daily Green stays on top of recalls that are relevant to our audience, and you can always find the latest food recalls listed here.

## 15. Think Beyond the Food

Why? Eating green is really about limiting waste in one form or another, so why stop with the food? Here are three easy ways to waste less and save money:

If you drink bottled water, or carbonated beverages, look to your tap, a good filter and/or a home carbonation system, paired with a good reusable bottle.

Get cloth napkins and



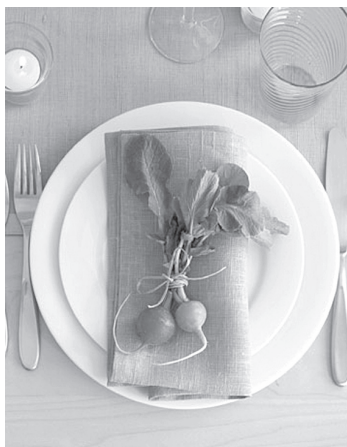
dishtowels, and stop buying paper napkins and paper towels. If you can't go without paper altogether, look for 100% post consumer recycled paper, and Green Seal certified (Forest Stewardship Council-certified is also a good label to look for.) Make your green switch complete by choosing napkins and hand towels made from recycled materials or a sustainable fiber like bamboo, jute or organic cotton.

Replace plastic storage containers with glass. Some kinds of plastics can leach Bisphenol A or phthalates, ingredients that have been shown to mimic hormones and which have been linked to several health concerns. Glass, if you can avoid dropping it, will last a lifetime. Think carefully about what your container is made out of when you use the microwave, since heating can also cause suspect chemicals to leach into food.

## 16. Green Clean

Why green clean? If you've gone through all the trouble of keeping any harmful pesticide residue from touching your vegetables, why would you want to use a pesticide (like an antimicrobial soap) or harsh chemical (like bleach) on your countertops, cooking surfaces and dishes?

Commercial cleaners made from less harsh and nontoxic ingredients have proliferated in recent years, making this



an easy switch. But in most cases, you can save money by easily making your own effective cleansers with simple ingredients like baking soda, borax, lemon juice and vinegar.

Not convinced? Check out the Zen Cleaner's ultra-simple DIY recipes for cleaning everything in the kitchen: the coffee maker, the dishwasher, the garbage disposal, the microwave, the oven -- and the refrigerator.

## 17. Buy EnergyStar Appliances

Why buy Energy Star? When it comes time to replace an old appliance, the government's Energy Star rating system is the best way to make sure you're choosing one of the most energy efficient models on the market. Doing so will cut down on your energy usage, and costs, for the lifetime of the appliance -- 10 years or more in many cases. Energy Star currently certifies dishwashers and refrigerators and freezers. The refrigerator is typically the biggest electricity user in the house (though flat-screen TVs are giving the old fridge a run for your money), so be sure to choose wisely.

And remember -- choose the right appliance for the job. While there are no Energy Star standards for stovetops, ovens, toasters or microwaves, you can be pretty confident that using a smaller appliance will use less energy.

## 18. Save Water

Why? Depending on where

you live, saving water may be imperative or just plain smart. Here are six simple ways to save water:

Identify and fix leaks in your faucet.

Only run the dishwasher when it's fully loaded, run it on the economy setting, and when it comes time to replace the dishwasher be sure to purchase one that is both energy- and water-efficient.

Store a pitcher of drinking water in the refrigerator for an easy source of cold water.

If you're running the water to get it hot, save the cold water for drinking or cooking, and the lukewarm water for watering plants. (Because older homes may have lead pipes, it's not wise to drink or cook with hot water, and it's a good idea to flush out any standing water in the pipes before taking a drink; that flushed water is fine for houseplants.)

Use commonsense: Don't leave the faucet running if you don't need the water. For example, use the drain stopper strategically, so you use a tub full of soapy water, or clean water for washing and rinsing dishes, instead of running the faucet.

Don't thaw meats or other items under running water. Plan ahead and defrost frozen items in the refrigerator or on the counter.

Amplify your water savings with additional energy (and cost) savings by checking the thermostat on your hot water heater. Set it so that the water remains hot, but not scalding. □







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WK 13	2BDRM	\$20,000.	LANAI
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WK 15	1BDRM	\$8,000.	4TH FL/O
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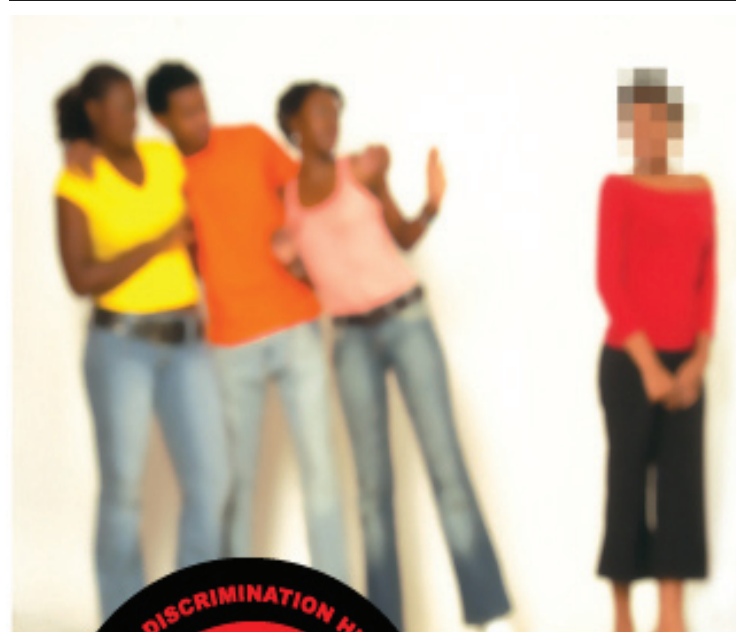
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2BR	WK 1/17	PLATINUM	O.F.	\$ 40.000
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2BR	WK 51/17	PLATINUM	O.V.	\$ 20.000
1BR	WK 51/17	PLATINUM	O.F.	\$ 24.000
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JR STU	WK 2/17	GRAND LEVEL		\$ 30.000
1BR RCL	WK 2/17	OCEAN FRONT		\$ 20.000
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### RIU PALACE

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1BR	WK 14	ROOM 348	P.O.	\$ 8.000
2BR	WK 15	ROOM349/350	P.O.	\$ 10.000

### DIVI LINKS

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1br	WK 11	ROOM 2104	P.V.	\$ 10.000

### PARADISE BEACH VILLAS

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2BR	WK 15	ROOM 301	P.O.	\$ 10.000

### LA CABANA BEACH RESORT

1BR	WK 12	ROOM 334F	O.V.	\$ 8.000
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### DIVI VILLAGE

1BR	WK 12	ROOM 3108	P.O.	\$ 8.000
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### DIVI PHOENIX

1BR	WK 11	ROOM 303	P.O.	\$ 12.000
2BR	WK 9/10	ROOM 211	P.O.	\$ 18.000 PW
STU	WK 15	ROOM 404	O.V.	\$ 6.000
1BR	WK 12	ROOM 1101	O.V.	\$ 11.000

### CASA DEL MAR

2BR	WK 15	ROOM 1223	O.F.	\$ 13.000
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### DUTCH VILLAGE

STU	WK 12	ROOM 125	P.O.	\$ 6.000
STU	WK 12	ROOM 119	P.O.	\$ 6.000
2BR	WK 11	ROOM 46 / 49	P.V.	\$ 17.000
1BR	WK 10	ROOM 27	P.V.	\$ 8.000

**For more info: 731-2012**  
**E-mail: [johnnypaesch@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnypaesch@yahoo.com)**

## Dockter na Warda



ORANJESTAD

SAN NICOLAAS

Dr. Tromp

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Oranjestad	582-4000
Noord	587-0009
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Savaneta	584-7000
San Nicolas	584-5000

## Emergency Numbers



Emergencia	911
Polis	100
Brandweer	115
Brandweer II	582-1108
Tipline di Polis	11141
Hospital	587-4300

## Oranjestad

Ambulance	582-1234
Warda Polis	582-4000
BGD Oranjestad	582-8877

## San Nicolas

Ambulance	584-5050
Warda Polis	584-5000
BGD San Nicolas	584-1606
Valero Security	584-1720

## Services

Elmar	583-3000
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## Tehran's Coup in Iraq?

Robert Dreyfuss

The Nation -- Iran is losing no time in assembling a pro-Tehran government in Iraq, and in so doing Tehran may push the Sunni minority in Iraq into violent rebellion. Already, there are reports from Iraq -- from Iraqi political insiders -- that former Prime Minister Iyad Allawi who led a nationalist, anti-Iranian coalition of secular Sunni and Shiite voters, may opt to boycott the upcoming new national assembly if he isn't given the right to form a government.

"We expect that there will be calls for a boycott of the parliament and for civil disobedience," according to Aiham Alsammarae, an ally of Allawi's. A violent reaction by Allawi's supporters can't be ruled out, he said, from voters who demand that Allawi be given the first crack at putting together a government. In the March 7 election, Allawi's Iraqi Nationalist Movement won 91 seats, edging out the State of Law party of Prime Minister Maliki, who won 89 seats.

But top Iraqi politicians representing Shiite sectarian politicians and Kurdish separatists filed dutifully to Iran yesterday for meetings on the formation of a new Iraqi government despite Allawi's win.

President Jalal Talabani, a Kurdish leader, visited Tehran this weekend for meetings with President Ahmadinejad and Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the supreme leader. Talabani was accompanied by Adel Abdel Mahdi, a leader of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq (ISCI) and Iraq's vice president, one of the leaders of the pro-Iranian Shiite religious bloc, the Iraqi National Alliance (INA). In parallel, leaders of Iraqi Prime Minister Maliki's State of Law party traveled to Iran to meet with Muqtada al-Sadr. Sadr and Abdel Mahdi are two key members of the INA, and behind the scenes Iran is knocking heads together to make sure that Maliki, the INA, and Talabani form a ruling alliance, according to Iraqi sources interviewed from Iraq and Jordan.

Their goal: to undercut former Prime Minister Iyad Allawi. Under Iraqi law, and according to previous procedures, Allawi would normally be asked to form a government. But Maliki finagled a court decision that, he says, allows him to form a broader coalition first and then claim the right to announce a ruling majority.

According to Iraqi sources, Maliki, the INA, and Talabani -- who controls eight or nine seats within the Kurdish bloc -- agreed in Iran to form a government, which could muster about 170 seats, more than the 163 necessary in the 325-member parliament. As a result, the sources report, Masoud Barzani, the chief Kurdish leader, will also throw in with the pro-Maliki bloc. □

# Next, Banking Reform

Robert Kuttner

It was a pleasure to see President Obama exercise some leadership and muscle towards health reform, and more recently to pass a true "public option" for student loans. Apparently, the experience of leadership felt good, for the president decided to follow up by deciding to damn the torpedoes and making fifteen recess appointments, including Craig Becker to breathe some life into the National Labor Relations Board.

Now, we need to see a similar display of presidential leadership on financial reform. The bill that passed the House last December is far too weak on all of the key issues.

Gigantic banking conglomerates will remain "too big to fail." There is no separation of commercial banking from investment banking or proprietary trading, nor meaningful reform of corrupted credit rating agencies. Regulation of derivatives such as credit default swaps is far too weak. Private equity companies and hedge funds are largely left alone. There is no serious reform of executive compensation. The next generation of bubbles is already incubating while we are still recovering from the damage of the previous one.

The Dodd bill that will come before the full Senate later this spring is slightly worse in some respects, slightly better in others.

The bill does include a version of Obama's call to restore the Glass-Steagall wall between commercial and investment banking (the "Volcker Rule"); but where the House bill created an independent consumer financial protection agency, the Dodd bill places this new agency, of all places, in the Federal Reserve. It was the Fed's total failure to enforce consumer protections on the books that invited the abuses that caused the collapse.

The bankruptcy examiner's revelations in his 2,200 page report about the behavior of Lehman Brothers should cause the White House to rethink its entire approach to financial reform. Basically, Lehman Brothers cooked its books for a few days four times a year, so that its quarterly reports would make the firm look far more solvent than it actually was. It used repurchase agreements ("repos"), which are short term

loans, to disguise \$30 to 50 billion worth of liabilities. This balance-sheet manipulation began in 2001, according to the examiner, Anton Valukas.

This kind of behavior demonstrates the failure of three separate systems that are supposed to protect investors, creditors and the larger economy from willful corporate fraud.

First, the Securities and Exchange Commission, which actually had personnel investigating Lehman at the time, and utterly missed what was going on right under the commission's nose, in a lapse comparable to the Madoff scandal.

Second, Lehman's outside auditors, Ernst and Young, failed to blow the whistle. These abuses mostly occurred after Congress enacted the 2002 Sarbanes-Oxley Act, explicitly to improve corporate auditing in the wake of the Enron fraud. Obviously, though corporate lobbies have been complaining that Sarbanes-Oxley inflicted too much red tape, the Lehman affair demonstrates that it is too weak to do the job. Auditors and executives, in principle anyway, are criminally liable for accounting fraud. But that did not deter Lehman from faking its books and Ernst and Young from going along.

According to the examiner's report, despite the auditor's acquiescence, Lehman was not able to find a law firm in the US to sign off on its bogus accounting. So Lehman went to the U.K., found a law firm, Linklater's, to provide an opinion letter under British law okaying the dubious bookkeeping, and then ran the transactions through a London subsidiary.

One backstop, that has been weakened in recent years both by Congressional action and by Supreme Court rulings, is the right of investors or creditors injured by fraudulent behavior to sue.

The original securities laws of the Roosevelt era envisioned that this kind of litigation--"private right of action"--would keep both corporations, their auditors and the SEC honest. But bipartisan legislation in the 1990s and two major Supreme Court decisions on 1994 and 2008 have effectively eliminated liability for aiding and abetting securities fraud. You can be sure if this right were still available, Ernst and Young

would have thought twice about giving Lehman a clean bill of health.

The politics of financial reform are drastically different from the politics of health care reform. For starters, Wall Street is massively unpopular in the country.

By contrast, in the case of health care, some of the bill's own weaknesses - the mandate, the diversion of Medicare funds, the tax on premiums of high-quality insurance - raised legitimate questions among many voters; Republicans succeed in creating lies about the bill (pulling the plug on Grandma, etc.) that only multiplied concerns. In the end, passing the bill was a genuinely difficult vote for many Democrats.

Financial reform is a whole other story. It's not a difficult vote to tighten restrictions on predator banks (except when it comes to campaign finance). Judging by the recent comments of Senator Bob Corker, one of the senior Republicans on the Senate Banking Committee, Republicans are genuinely worried about finding themselves on the wrong side of a populist issue if they try to block financial reform the same way they tried to block health reform.

On financial reform, the real problem is not the Republicans--but whether Democrats will be tough enough.

They have far more political room to force the Republicans to take a difficult vote than they are exercising. A cynic might think that Democrats such as Chris Dodd and Chuck Schumer are more worried about keeping Wall Street and the Fed happy than about maximizing the moment for reform and demonstrating to regular Americans which side they are on.

And if President Obama wants to appeal to bipartisanship, here is an area where bipartisanship can actually go hand in hand with good government. One example is the amendment to require an independent audit of the Federal Reserve, which was cosponsored by one of the most progressive Democrats in the House, Alan Grayson of Florida, and the libertarian Republican Ron Paul of Texas. With the support of over 300 House Democrats, that bipartisan provision made it into the final House bill. □



# Chile anuncia plan reconstrucción de viviendas tras sismo

SANTIAGO (Reuters) - El presidente chileno, Sebastián Piñera, anunció el lunes un plan de reconstrucción y subsidios por 2.543 millones de dólares para miles de viviendas dañadas tras el terremoto y los tsunamis que azotaron al país a fines de febrero.

Durante un acto público, Piñera dijo que de acuerdo con el último catastro un total de 370.051 viviendas fueron afectadas por el desastre del pasado 27 de febrero.

“El costo de este programa asciende a 2.543 millones de dólares y esperamos poder asumir esta responsabilidad

durante los próximos 24 meses complementando el presupuesto normal que tenía el Ministerio de Vivienda”, dijo Piñera.

El terremoto de magnitud 8,8 y los posteriores tsunamis devastaron gran parte del centro y sur de Chile, en una tragedia que dejó al menos 342 muertos identificados y daños por 30.000 millones de dólares.

Piñera dijo que el Estado reconstruirá 133.994 viviendas y subsidiará la reparación de 61.956 casas. Además, el mandatario dijo que había 127.235 viviendas con daños totales o parciales que podían

solicitar un subsidio para su reparación o reconstrucción.

“No sólo (vamos a) reconstruir lo que se cayó, sino que vamos a reconstruirlo mejor, con nuevas tecnologías, con diseño más amable para la gente y también más respetuoso del medio ambiente y más eficiente desde el punto de vista energético”, dijo Piñera. Para hacer frente a la reconstrucción de las poblaciones e infraestructura dañadas, el Gobierno evalúa aumentar impuestos a las empresas, emitir deuda en pesos o dólares, así como la utilización de fondos soberanos y reajustes de presupuesto. □



Imagen de archivo del presidente de Chile, Sebastián Piñera, en su visita a Constitución. Mar 11 2010. El presidente chileno, Sebastián Piñera, anunció el lunes un plan de reconstrucción y subsidios por 2.543 millones de dólares para miles de viviendas dañadas tras el terremoto y los tsunamis que azotaron al país a fines de febrero. REUTERS/Maglio Perez/ARCHIVO

## Disidente cubano en huelga de hambre rechaza oferta de España

LA HABANA (Reuters) - El disidente cubano Guillermo Fariñas, debilitado tras 34 días en huelga de hambre, rechazó el lunes una oferta del Gobierno español de enviar a la isla un avión ambulancia para llevarlo a España, dijo su madre.

Fariñas, un psicólogo de 48 años, comenzó su ayuno el 24 de febrero tras la muerte del preso político Orlando Zapata después de 85 días en huelga de hambre. Reclama la liberación de 26 presos políticos enfermos. “El dijo que no quería ir para España exiliado”, dijo Alicia Hernández por teléfono a Reuters desde la habitación del hospital en la ciudad de Santa Clara, 270 kilómetros al este de La Habana, donde su hijo está internado.

La embajada de España en La Habana

declinó comentar sobre la oferta. Pero según Hernández, un consejero de la embajada la llamó el domingo para ofrecerle enviar un avión ambulancia para trasladar a su hijo a España.

Es la tercera vez este mes que el Gobierno español le ofrece la posibilidad de irse a España. Y es la tercera vez que Fariñas la rechaza.

El disidente ha perdido alrededor de 13 kilos de peso desde que empezó su huelga de hambre.

El fin de semana tuvo fiebre alta a raíz de una infección y los médicos debieron retirarle una sonda por donde le suministran alimentación y líquidos por vía intravenosa. Su madre dijo que el lunes amaneció sin fiebre y la presión arterial se ha estabilizado. □

## Distinguido periodista Nogueira fallece en Brasil

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) - Uno de los periodistas deportivos más connotados de Brasil, Armando Nogueira, falleció el lunes a los 83 años tras una larga batalla contra el cáncer cerebral que lo aquejaba. Globo TV dijo que Nogueira murió por la mañana en su casa poco más dos años después de que los médicos le diagnosticaran la enfermedad. El periodista cubría Copas Mundiales de fútbol desde 1954 y

Juegos Olímpicos de Verano, desde 1980.

Nogueira también fue una figura importante en el establecimiento de la operación noticiosa general de Globo TV, la red de mayor audiencia en Brasil.

La relevancia de Armando Nogueira en el mundo deportivo de Brasil quedó demostrada con el escenario de su funeral: el estadio Maracanã □



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## Opositor de Chávez recibe orden de callar su caso ente los medios

CARACAS (AP) — La corte principal de Venezuela le prohibió el domingo a un legislador opositor del presidente Hugo Chávez que aborde con los medios de comunicación el caso judicial en el que está acusado de golpear a una policía.

La Corte Suprema dijo en su orden que al legislador Wilmer Azuaje “no le es permitido declarar en relación al presente asunto ante cualquier medio de comunicación social, ... en razón de la reputación, integridad y honor de la víctima”.

Azuaje niega que haya cometido delito alguna y asegura que hay motivos políticos detrás de la acusación. El legislador se ha quejado desde hace tiempo de que es hostigado por las autoridades. Considera que el acoso es una represalia por las acusaciones de corrupción y nepotismo que ha hecho contra miembros de la familia del presidente en el estado natal del mandatario, Barinas. La familia de Chávez ha negado los señalamientos.

La policía Yuraima Castillo acusó a Azuaje de insultarla y de tomarla y golpearla en un hombro durante una discusión cuando el legislador recogía un automóvil que le había sido robado a su madre y que las autoridades policiales habían recuperado. Azuaje, del suroccidental Barinas, fue detenido el jueves luego que los fiscales lo acusaron de insultar a un agente policial y de violar la ley que prohíbe golpear a las mujeres. □



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